

# The People.

A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

LONDON, SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 1891.

MILFORD LANE

STRAND.—No. 406.

THIRD EDITION.  
"THE PEOPLE" OFFICE,  
Saturday Evening.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.  
ITALY AND AMERICA.  
THREATENED CLOSE OF DIPLOMATIC  
INTERCOURSE.

(DALEFIELD'S TELEGRAM.)

WASHINGTON, April 11.—An Associated Press cable despatch from Rome says that if the Government of the United States does not answer the note of the Marquis Imperial di Francavilla, the Italian chargé d'affaires at Washington, by to-day, Mr. Porter, the United States Minister at Rome will be ordered to leave Italy, the Italian legation at Washington recalled, and Italian interests left in charge of the British Minister. The despatch has caused great excitement here. Mr. Blaine, the Secretary of State, remained in his library all the evening, and declined an interview with a reporter who sent him a copy of the despatch. Mr. Blaine wrote on the margin, "This Government knows nothing and believes nothing of the rumour." President Harrison also denied all knowledge of the matter, while the State department officials believe the report to be a mere canard. (REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

WASHINGTON, April 11.—A despatch from Rome, threatening to close all direct diplomatic intercourse unless the reply to the Marquis di Francavilla's message is received to-day, has been shown to President Harrison and Mr. Blaine. Both refused to speak on the subject. It is known, however, that Mr. Blaine has prepared an answer to the Italian Premier, and it is understood that the President and the Cabinet have approved it. This reply, it is moreover said, has already been despatched to the Marquis di Francavilla, although it is not known whether it was sent by mail or by telegraph. If it was forwarded by post, it is believed that the Italian Premier was informed of the fact by cable, and for this and other reasons, it is thought that the rumour from Rome as to the severing of diplomatic relations is incorrect. Baron Fava said for Europe on board the French Transatlantic Company's steamer La Gasconne.

A meeting of the Union League Club at New York on Friday night adopted a report condemning without qualification the course pursued in New Orleans, but declaring that the majority engaged in the illegal proceedings were not enemies of the country, or intended to make a dangerous assault upon free institutions. They were not Anarchists nor Revolutionists, but lovers of their country. They were only mistaken in the remedy adopted for the evil under which they were suffering—namely, the organisation of foreign criminals bound together by solemn oaths, who had in cold blood murdered the chief of police. Detective O'Malley, who is charged with corrupting the jury in the trial of the Mafia assassins, was arraigned on Friday at New Orleans. The prisoner is defended by two lawyers. About thirty citizens, all of whom are understood to have been armed, marched into the court in a body, says a Dalefield's telegram. They witnessed the arraignment, and left in a body immediately after the conclusion of the proceedings. They make no secret of the reason for their attendance in court, which is to hurry forward the trial of the prisoner. The grand jury occupied all Friday in investigating the circumstances of the lynching of the Italian prisoners. The prison officials were examined, but professed to be able to identify only a few of the persons concerned, not having witnessed the actual shooting. The grand jury caused all the newspaper reporters who were at the prison to be called, and some of them revealed the names of persons who carried arms. The grand jury will present their report on Monday.

THE EUROPEAN SITUATION.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.)

VIENNA, April 9.—The *Press* in the course of a reassuring article on the European political situation, emphatically denies the alarmist reports recently published that clouds had arisen upon the political horizon, and that a serious aggravation of the situation is to be feared in the near future. These reports the *Press* describes as completely erroneous.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

THE CRISIS IN ARGENTINA.

ADMIRAL SOLIER AND SEVERAL GENERALS ARRESTED.

BUENOS AIRES, April 11.—Admiral Solier, commander of the fleet, and several of the generals who signed the manifesto against the Mitre-Roca coalition, published on Thursday, have been arrested. There is no truth in the report that an insurrection had broken out in Tucuman.

THE EIGHT HOURS' QUESTION.

New York, April 10.—The Inter-State Convention of coal miners and operators at Pittsburg has failed to arrange a compromise, and 75,000 men will in consequence go out on strike on May 1st. The Knights of Labour and the Federation of Labour support the men in the demand for an eight hours' day.

DISTURBANCE AT OPORTO.

MANY PERSONS INJURED.

MADRID, April 9.—The *Epoch* reports a serious disturbance having occurred at Oporto. During the fair now being held there the police arrested some thieves, and the crowd, not knowing the cause of the men's detention, became riotous. Cries of "Long live the Republic" were raised, and the aspect of affairs became so serious that the military were called out. On their arrival they were stoned by the people, and the troops then charged the crowd, many persons being injured. Several arrests were made, and tranquillity was eventually restored.

ESCAPE FROM A LUNATIC ASYLUM.

A STRANGE STORY.

New York, April 10.—The *Epoch* publishes a remarkable story of the escape of Miss Anna Dickinson, the well-known advocate of women's rights, from the Asylum for the Insane at Danville, Pennsylvania, where she has been confined since the beginning of March. Miss Dickinson describes her experience in the asylum as having been terrible, and complains of the bad quality of the food, and the brutality of the keepers.

She accuses a relative of having by a deeply laid scheme caused her incarceration as a lunatic and published strange stories about the poverty of the family, besides making appeals for pecuniary aid. According to the *Epoch* a fund of 20,000 dollars, has been raised for the relief of Miss Anna Dickinson, who is now taking the steps necessary to insure her liberty should she return to Pennsylvania.

KIDNAPPING IN CUBA.

HAVANA, April 9.—Three persons who were recently kidnapped in the district of Yaguajay by bandits have been released on payment of a ransom.

DISORDERLY SOCIALIST MEETING IN PARIS.

PARIS, April 8.—A meeting this evening of the Central Socialist Committee, which was attended by delegates from Paris and the Seine generally, was the occasion of very disorderly scenes. The commencement of the proceedings was most tumultuous in consequence of the expulsion from the hall by the delegates of the reporters, in spite of their protests. The advisability of this step was contested by the general meeting and the expulsion was finally rescinded. A great commotion then prevailed, the Socialists disputing and even fighting with each other. The noise was so great that no speakers could make themselves heard, and therefore it was decided to take the proposed resolution at the next sitting of the committee. The meeting then dissolved amid a scene of wild tumult.

THE DEFENCE OF NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, April 9.—The Board of Trade and Transportation has resolved to petition the legislature to pass a resolution requesting the President to call the special attention of Congress in his next message to the exposed condition of the sea approaches to New York and Brooklyn, and to ask for immediate action with regard to their better protection.

FATAL EXPLOSION IN CANADA.

TORONTO, April 9.—A fearful explosion occurred at a glycerine factory near Petrolia, Ontario last night, when three men were blown to atoms. Portions of their remains were found scattered about an area of five acres. The buildings were totally destroyed, and all that remained of the site was a hole 15 feet deep and 30 feet across.

THE MISSING ENGLISH MAIL BAG.

BOULOGNE SUR MER, April 9.—Four Englishmen were arrested last night by French and English detectives on board the night boat from Dover to Calais, on suspicion of complicity in the robbery of the mail bag which disappeared while in transit between Calais and this town last Saturday night.

(DALZIEL'S TELEGRAM.)

INFLUENZA IN AMERICA.

A TERRIBLE DEATH RATE.

NEW YORK, April 10.—The death rate is increasing alarmingly. There were 206 deaths yesterday, including twenty-one from the gripe. For the five days ending noon yesterday there were 872 deaths, the largest on record. One-fourth of the police are on the sick list.

OTTAWA, April 10.—The annual report of the Minister of Indian Affairs states that there has been a large decrease of Indians in some of the provinces due to the gripe.

A FRENCH DUEL.

PARIS, April 10.—The duel between M. Jules Lemaire, the author of "Le Mariage Blanc," and dramatic critic of the "Journal des Débats," and M. Faïcien Champaud, of the "Echo du Monde," took place at eight o'clock this morning on the plateau of Chatillon, in the vicinity of Paris. Two shots were exchanged without effect. M. Champaud thereupon turned towards his seconds and said in a loud voice, "Messieurs c'est un duel blanc." The adversaries then left the ground without being reconciled.

MURDER OF A COLONIST.

THREATENED DIFFICULTY WITH VENEZUELA.

NEW YORK, April 8.—News has just reached here from Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, in respect to the murder of William Campbell, a British subject, by the Venezuelan police. The facts already published about this affair are fully confirmed, and details are now at hand. The district magistrate held an inquest upon the body, and the jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against the policeman who shot Campbell and the sergeant who ordered him to fire. This brutal act of the Venezuelan police has naturally aroused a very bitter feeling among the settlers on both the English and Venezuelan sides of the Amacuro River, and bloodshed was expected to result from the resentment that has been excited. The *Democrat Argosy* says: "What has happened is just what we expected would happen sooner or later if the strained relations existing between Great Britain and Venezuela over the boundary question were not relieved by a businesslike settlement."

RIOTS SENTENCED TO DEATH.

PRATTSBURG, April 9.—The three Hungarians who were concerned in the riots at Mr. Andrew Carnegie's steel works at Bradford (Penn.) on New Year's day, when Michael Quinn was killed, were yesterday sentenced to be hanged, motions for a new trial having been overruled. A strong effort will be made to secure a commutation from the State Board of Pardons, as there is a general belief that the crime scarcely amounted to more than manslaughter.

A BOLD STEP BY BULGARIA.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.)

VIENNA, April 10.—A despatch from Sofia announces that the Bulgarian Government has addressed a note to the Government of the Czar affirming that the assassins of M. Bechtold are now in Russia, and enumerating their names and residences in that country. The note further demands the extradition of the criminals, and of those who instigated them to commit the murder.

SOLICITORS STRUCK OFF THE ROLLS.

Motions were made in the Queen's Bench on Friday, before Justices Mathew and Day, at the instance of the Incorporated Law Society, in four cases against solicitors in respect of professional misconduct. Most of them were cases of misappropriation of trust funds—in one to the extent of £2000, while in another the amount embezzled was stated to be £22,000. None of the four solicitors concerned appeared to offer any defence, and they were all struck off the rolls.

FRIDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE LICENSING QUESTION.

Mr. T. W. RUSSELL asked whether the decision of the House of Lords, in the case of *Sharp v. Wakefield*, overruled the judgment given in the Irish Court of Queen's Bench in 1876, in the case of *Clitheroe v. the Recorder of Dublin*, in which it was held that the Irish publican had a vested interest in his license.

—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL for IRELAND said the case of *Sharp v. Wakefield* was decided by the House of Lords upon a different state of facts, and different statutes from those which were before the Irish Court of Queen's Bench. It therefore did not overrule the last-mentioned decision. How far the principles on which the House of Lords rested the decision were applicable to the Irish licensing code was another and a different question, with regard to which he would point out that the matter could be raised before the licensing authorities by any person who thought it desirable, and could be taken to the Court of Appeal.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON LABOUR—NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONERS.

Mr. W. H. SMITH read the terms of the reference to the Labour Commissioners as follows:—"To inquire into questions affecting the relations between employer and employee, the combinations of employers and employees, the conditions of labour which have been raised during the recent trade disputes in the United Kingdom, and to report whether legislation could with advantage be directed to remedy any evils that may be disclosed, and if so, in what manner." The names of the commissioners were:—The Marquis of Hartington, the Earl of Derby, Sir M. Hicks-Beach, M.P., Sir J. Gorst, M.P., Mr. Mundella, M.P., Mr. H. Fowler, M.P., Mr. Leonard Courtney, M.P., Sir E. Holland, M.P., of Belfast, the Caledonian Railway, Mr. G. Balfour, M.P., Mr. J. Collings, M.P., Mr. T. Burt, M.P., secretary to the Northumbrian Miners' Association, Mr. W. Abraham, M.P., of the South Wales Miners' Committee, Sir F. Pollock, Corpus Professor of Jurisprudence at Oxford, Professor Marshall, of Cambridge, Sir William Lewis, manager of the Bute Docks, Cardiff; Mr. T. H. Ismay, managing director of the White Star Steamship Company; Mr. D. Dale, ironmaster; Mr. G. Livesey, of the South Metropolitan Gas Company; Mr. W. Tunstall, cotton manufacturer; Mr. G. Mawdsley, of the Association of Operative Cotton Spinners; Mr. Tom Mann, president of the Dock Labourers' Union; Mr. Edward Drow, secretary of the Board of Conciliation of the Iron and Steel trades; Mr. Henry Tait, chairman of the United Trades Council, Glasgow; Mr. Samuel Pimsoil, Mr. Hewlett, managing director of the Wigan Coal and Iron Company; and Mr. Austin, secretary of the Irish Democratic Labourers' Federation.—Mr. JUSTIN McCARTHY rose and asked leave to move the adjournment of the House to call attention as a definite matter of urgent importance to the fact that the name of Mr. Michael Davitt had not appeared on the list of the Commissioners, and to the reasons for that.—The SPEAKER asked whether forty members supported the motion. —Nearly all the members of the Opposition side, excepting the front bench, rose, but as there were only about thirty, the Speaker, after counting them, said there were not forty members.—Mr. HOWELL gave notice that when the vote was taken for the expenses of the Commission he intended to call attention to the matter, and to move a reduction.

THE WESTMINSTER TRAGEDY.

VERDICT AND SENTENCE.

At the Central Criminal Court on Friday, before Mr. Justice Lawrence, Patrick Duffy, 21, a private in the Scots Guards, and Thomas Rushton, 21, a private in the Army Service Corps, were indicted for the manslaughter of Ernest Watts.—Mr. Gill, who prosecuted, said the deceased man was a private in the Grenadier Guards, and it was alleged that he was assaulted by the prisoners in such a way as to cause death. On the night of the 11th, Duffy and Rushton were drinking in a public-house in Ann-street, Westminster. A dispute arose between two men named Knowles and Clarke, and they left and engaged in a fight outside the house. The quarrel was settled, and upon the men re-entering the house one of them was pushed by the prisoner Duffy. The deceased man Watts, who had also been drinking in the bar, interposed, and told Duffy that he had no business to interfere with the civilians. This appeared to have incensed the latter, and he invited Watts to go outside and settle the dispute. Watts replied that he had no wish to quarrel, and prepared to leave when it was alleged both Duffy and Rushton rushed at him, seized him by the tunics, threw him to the ground, and then violently kicked him about the head. It was seen that the deceased was seriously injured, and both the prisoners ran away. Watts was conveyed to the hospital, but he died on the way, death, in the opinion of the doctor, being due to a severe blow on the neck, which had ruptured the blood vessels of the spinal cord. From inquiries the prisoners were traced to the barracks, and subsequently apprehended. Duffy admitted being present at the disturbance at the Three Elms public-house, but he denied being a party to the violence which had caused the death of the deceased.—After evidence had been given in support of the charge, Duffy, in his address to the jury, said the deceased was the aggressor in the quarrel, which resulted through his having assaulted a young woman who was in Kushtan's company. The deceased fell over the doorsteps, but it was untrue that he (Duffy) was guilty of the violence.—The jury found both prisoners guilty. They added that it was their opinion Duffy inflicted the blow which caused death.—His lordship sentenced Duffy to twelve, and Rushton to two months' hard labour.

THE BUDGET.

Mr. J. MORLEY asked on what day the Budget would be taken?—Mr. SMITH: It will not be taken before Monday week, the 20th, and I will give notice on Monday, or Thursday at the latest, when it will be taken.

IRISH LAND PURCHASE.

The Middlesex Registry Bill having been read a third time, the House went into committee on the Purchase of Land in Congested Districts (Ireland) Bill.—Mr. LABOURER moved to omit from the first clause the words authorising the issue of a "guaranteed" land stock for the purchase of estates, and charged the Unionist party with a violation of their pledges.—Mr. BALFOUR remarked that as to the alleged inconsistency of the Tory party, of course objection was taken to Mr. Gladstone's Bill, and that bill was revived the same objections would again be brought forward, and on the same grounds. The objection was not to land purchase in the abstract, but to the risk of loss thrown on the British taxpayer by the provisions of the bill. No risk fell on the taxpayer by the present bill, and whether he was at all events, consistent in their opposition to the bill of the member for Midlothian. Mr. Gladstone's was essentially an insecure scheme, but the present bill gave an entirely different set of guarantees and was not associated with a House Bill measure. (Hear, hear.) He could not conceive of a safer transaction than that which the House was asked to undertake. Every possible contingency of potato failure, fall in prices, and conspiracy against rent was met, and whether the bill was or was not a great step towards the solution of one of the greatest difficulties ever met in Irish legislation any one who looked carefully into the figures would come to no other conclusion than that it was financially a perfectly sound and secure one. (Loud cheers).—Mr. GLADSTONE said he did not think many candidates in their addresses to their constituents would be likely to endorse the sentiments announced by the Chief Secretary. He thought it was a dangerous and impolitic course to replace the ownership of the landlord by that of the British Exchequer. That course was avoided by the bill of 1886, which established an Irish authority. He felt himself precluded from voting for any proposal to pledge British credit by the understanding which was come to at the last general election.—Mr. BALFOUR pointed out that the right hon. gentleman's bill of 1886 was rejected not because it pledged British credit, but because the country thought that credit was going to be impeded. He did not think, therefore, that the pledges given at the last general election precluded him, members from voting for this bill. Whatever else the

bill did, it did not imperil the money of the British taxpayer.—Mr. T. HEALY contended that the Government were not sincere in the guarantees they proposed, and that the alarm professed by the opposition was affected, for they knew that every shilling would be paid.—After some remarks from Mr. Channing, Mr. A. O'Connor, Sir George Campbell, and Mr. Morton, Mr. BALFOUR moved the closure, which was carried on a division by 216 against 127.—The committee then divided on Mr. Labouchere's amendment, and it was negatived by 232 against 133.—The sitting was suspended at 7.15.

INDIAN OPIUM TRAFFIC.

On arriving at nine o'clock, on the motion to go into Committee of Supply, Sir J. PEASE rose to call attention to the Indian opium traffic, and to move "That this House of opinion that the system by which the Indian opium revenue is raised is morally indefensible, and urges upon the Indian Government that they should cease to grant licenses for the cultivation of the poppy and sale of opium in British India except to supply the legitimate demand for medical purposes, and that they should at the same time take measures to arrest the transit of Malwa opium through British territory." Mr. M. STEWART, in seconding the resolution, believed that at the next sitting the question of the opium trade would be a test question among the constituents.—Dr. FARQUHARSON contended that the ordinary use of opium did good. Excessive opium smoking was an evil, but it did not permanently injure a man after he gave it up.—Sir J. FERGUSON denied any evils that may be disclosed, and if so, in what manner. The names of the commissioners were:—The Marquis of Hartington, the Earl of Derby, Sir M. Hicks-Beach, M.P., Sir J. Gorst, M.P., Mr. Mundella, M.P., Mr. H. Fowler, M.P., Mr. Leonard Courtney, M.P., Sir E. Holland, M.P., of Belfast, the Caledonian Railway, Mr. G. Balfour, M.P., Mr. J. Collings, M.P., Mr. T. Burt, M.P., secretary to the Northumbrian Miners' Association, Mr. W. Abraham, M.P., of the South Wales Miners' Committee, Sir F. Pollock, Corpus Professor of Jurisprudence at Oxford, Professor Marshall, of Cambridge, Sir William Lewis, manager of the Bute Docks, Cardiff; Mr. T. H. Ismay, managing director of the White Star Steamship Company; Mr. D. Dale, ironmaster; Mr. G. Livesey, of the South Metropolitan Gas Company; Mr. W. Tunstall, cotton manufacturer; Mr. G. Mawdsley, of the Association of Operative Cotton Spinners; Mr. Tom Mann, president of the Dock Labourers' Union; Mr. Austin, M.P., of the South Wales Miners' Committee, Sir F. Pollock, Corpus Professor of Jurisprudence at Oxford, Professor Marshall, of Cambridge, Sir William Lewis, manager of the Bute Docks, Cardiff; Mr. T. H. Ismay, managing director of the White Star Steamship Company; Mr. D. Dale, ironmaster; Mr. G. Livesey, of the South Metropolitan Gas Company; Mr. W. Tunstall, cotton manufacturer; Mr. G. Mawdsley, of the Association of Operative Cotton Spinners; Mr. Tom

JACK A-CRUISE.  
By A.B.

## IN A TORPEDO BOAT.

Although my new ship was almost brand new and fitted with every improvement that the science of modern warfare could suggest, she was hardly the sort of craft that one would choose to go in a trip of eleven thousand miles in. In fact, she did not aspire to being called a ship at all, being 120ft. long and 12ft. broad, with only 5ft. draught of water. Our crew consisted of eighteen officers and men, all told; the officers being a lieutenant, a sub-lieutenant, and gunner, and the men consisting of two engine-room artificers, seven stokers, and six petty officers and seamen. Quite enough people, too, for so small a craft, but we could hardly have done with less, as there was more work to do in her than would appear at first sight. The officers' cabin and store-room were bright, then came a torpedo-gun store room, and then the stokehole and engine-room. The engines were triple expansion and very powerful, being capable of driving the boat twenty-two knots an hour; and before the stoke-hole, which, together with the engine-room, took up half the length of the boat, came the seamen's quarters and the rouning tower, and right forward of all, in the bows, was the tube for discharging our torpedoes. There was precious little room on deck for exercise, as the place was crowded with all sorts of fittings, amongst them being a large electric search-light and two collapsible dinghies, but this was not much loss, as the awful motion of the boat whilst at sea rendered walking impossible, and all one thought of then was how to keep still.

There was another boat besides ourselves bound on the same journey, and we were both under the orders of a small cruiser which had been told off to convoy us out to China. It was about the last week in February when we left Plymouth, and made our way round to Falmouth, to place ourselves under the orders of the captain of the cruiser, which was then waiting for us. We all stayed there for three days so as to let the sea, which had been very rough through the effects of a recent gale, settle down a bit, and at daybreak, on a grey and cloudy Sunday morning, we steamed out of the little bay with the cruiser ahead of us, and we two boats formed astern of her, one on each quarter. We found the first day of our voyage fairly easy going, as the sea had rocked itself to sleep, and but for a long smooth undulating swell that was running in from the Atlantic, we might as well have been on a duck pond. We were lucky, indeed, to get such weather at this time of year, and we accordingly took full advantage of it by pushing on at the rate of about fifteen knots, which was the utmost the cruiser could go at for any length of time. We had this lovely weather for nearly two days, and as long as it lasted we, on board our little ship was quite delightful, and a very welcome change to the monotony of an ordinary man-of-war.

Such a state of things, though, was not fated to last long, for about two o'clock during the second night at sea the wind began to freshen up from the north-eastward, and by daybreak the sea had become bad enough to make our lives on board a perfect misery. No one who has never experienced the motion of a torpedo boat in a rough sea can imagine what our sufferings were. Certainly, they were aggravated by the fact that it was our first experience of it, but you may imagine what it was like when I tell you that not only myself but several other men besides, went nearly crazy through the dreadful ordeal. The rolling and pitching were far more violent than could possibly be experienced on a ship, and, to add to our misery, the boat was flooded every minute with the seas that broke right over her. Still we sped on, for the wind and seas were behind us, and the only thing to do, unless they got too rough, was to run away from them as quickly as possible. We, so that the only shelter we could go to was the stokehole, where we, at any rate, found warmth, and a bed of dry coal, was far better than a wet deck. We had intended running straight down to Gibraltar, but the captain of the cruiser determined to put into Vigo for shelter until the sea had gone down a bit and to give us a chance of recovering ourselves and coaling and watering the boat. It was a lucky thing that the wind was not from the opposite quarter, or we should have had the full force of the Atlantic Ocean on us, and we might then have had real cause to grumble. As it was, we had only been made very seasick, and had the poor satisfaction of learning afterwards that the people on board the cruiser had had a very pleasant passage, and that what we had imagined to be an awful gale was only really a stiff breeze.

We lay in Vigo Bay for two days, and though the sea was bad as ever, our rest had made us bolder, so on a more we steamed out to sea again, at the same time taking the precaution to hug the coast well, and keep under the lee of the land. By the time we had arrived at Gibraltar we found our insides had become more hardened to the constant motion, and our run through the Mediterranean, broken as it was by a day's rest at Malta, passed without any interesting incident, and we arrived at Port Said thirteen days after leaving England, very good run indeed, considering nearly four days of the time had been spent in harbour at Port Said—no, not doubt, you know—was the Mediterranean entrance to the Suez Canal, and here we found an enormous number of steamers awaiting their turn to be taken through. We being so small, though, were allowed to go through at once, and did it in fine style, going at our full speed of twenty-one knots, and exciting the greatest interest amongst the passengers and crews of the steamers passing through, as we dashed past them. We were only about half-way through when darkness came on, but our powerful search light, throwing its dazzling beam of light ahead, enabled us to obviate the necessity of lying up for the night, and by three o'clock in the morning we were comfortably anchored inside the breakwater at Suez and awaiting the arrival of our convoy, which, of course, had to take her turn with the other ships.

Our run down through the Red Sea, though easy and comfortable, was marred by a terribly sad accident. We had just gone in sight of the island of Perim, where we intended to fill up with coal, and were running on ahead

of the cruiser at a high speed, when all of a sudden we heard a shout and felt the engines being suddenly thrown back to full speed astern. Of course, every one was on deck in a moment, when we found that the third hand of the watch, who had been at work about something right aft, had overbalanced himself over the rail and fallen into the water. He was already far astern, but the day being beautifully clear and the sea as smooth as glass, there was no difficulty in keeping him in sight. The officer of the watch had already put the boat again at slow ahead and the helm hard over, so as to steer her back alongside him, and every one knowing the man was a good swimmer, was laughing at the mishap, when suddenly we espied, about fifty yards from him, on the surface of the water, a large black fin. "Help him!" we cried, for we saw now the terrible danger he was in, and knew that not a moment was to be lost if we wished to save him from the hungry jaws of the shark. The engines were put at full speed ahead, and as the boat flew through the water towards him, we stationed ourselves round the bows ready to clutch him from the awin death that threatened him. The shark was nearer to him now, and to brighten it off, the captain himself fired a rifle at it. Whether it hit the brute or not I don't know, but, at any rate, its cursed black fin disappeared, and some of us thought it had gone for good. Alas! the brute had only dived so as to prepare for aiming at its prey, for a few seconds afterwards, when the boat had slowed down, and we were not more than twenty yards from the man, he gave a frightful shriek, threw up his arms, and disappeared. Never so long as I live shall I forget that dreadful cry, or the look of agony and terror in his face as the brute's jaws gripped his frame. The sight of what had just passed beneath our eyes almost stupefied us, and I don't think a soul on board of us could speak for many seconds. We stayed near the red patch on the water which marked the place where our poor shipmate had been for some time, but no trace of his body could be seen, and at last, with feelings of sadness and horror, we obeyed the signal from the cruiser to follow her, and sped away from the accured spot.

We sailed at Perim, and after a short run arrived at Aden, where we stayed a few days to get a rest and prepare ourselves for our long trip across the Indian Ocean. Although the N.E. monsoon, which blows continuously from October till March in these latitudes, had nearly gone, we knew we must prepare ourselves for a rather rough journey, and, besides that, we had to go through the discomfort of being towed by the cruiser, owing to our supply of coal not permitting us to do such a long run by ourselves. The weather, too, had become most dreadfully hot, and altogether we were beginning to feel very sick and tired of our cramped quarters, but Jack is never happy unless he has something to grow at, and, after all, our officers, who, by the way, were no more comfortable than we were ourselves, did all they could to make things easy. We stayed at Aden about a week altogether, and, on the fine morning, just before Old Sol rose above the horizon, and began his daily frizzle, the cruiser steamed out of harbour, with the two boats in tow, and their crews lying down and enjoying themselves at the game of doing nothing beneath the cool shade of a good thick awning.

(To be continued.)

## OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The present volume of the *Minerva Library*, and "European Travels" by William Beckford, with a portrait of the author, a biographical introduction and several illustrations. Beckford was undoubtedly a man of great genius and his works are in some respects literary curiosities. His sketches of European life, customs and opinions in his time are most valuable. The regular subscribers to this excellent series may be well satisfied with the present instalment which Messrs. Ward, Lock, and Co. put before them.

MESSRS. KING, SEL, AND RAYTON.—An Account of an Extraordinary Living Hidden City in Central Africa, and Gatherings from South Africa, by W. H. Middleton. "The Book of the Field Staff of Old English Breeds of Horses" by Mr. Bunting-Coutts, M.P., is published by Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, and Co. Messrs. Cassell send "The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin" in the latest number of their National Library, a book which is certainly cheap at threepence. Those about to travel by sea, who are subject to sea-diseases, should possess themselves of the second edition of Dr. Thomas Dutton's "Seasickness and Travelling for Health" which fully deals with the cause, prevention and cure of that most unpleasant infliction. It is published by Messrs. Bellière, Fidell, and Cox. Messrs. Eppington, Wilson, and Co. bring out a "Handy Book on the Law of Private Trading Partnership," one of their well-known series of legal hand-books.

AGALLANT LIFEBOAT RESCUE.

Mr. Andrew Lang gives the following account of a gallant lifeboat service at St. Andrews—Your readers may be pleased to hear of a particularly gallant act on the part of a volunteer lifeboat crew.

A. LANG.—A vessel had been tacking vainly about the bay all through the morning. She anchored off the cliff between the Maiden and Spindle Rocks about eleven o'clock. The St. Andrews lifeboat could not, after many efforts, be driven through the surf, and a party of volunteers went out to a kind of unincorporated lifeboat at Boar Hill, some four miles away. She had not been used for ten years, her escape-valves were stopped, and it was difficult to launch her. She made the trip to the barque with comparative ease, though heavily waterlogged. On her return through the surf she nearly filled with water, and became unmanageable. Three of the crew were swept overboard, but regained the boat, which fortunately was driven on the shelving sand just beyond the rocks. Had she struck on them probably many of the crew would have been drowned. They well knew the great risk they ran volunteers, without any prospect of material reward. The ship's cables broke shortly after the rescue, and she went on the rocks. A. LANG.—Your question is not clear as to what you mean by "not to express" any claim to a valid action of pretence may be brought. It is good to the value of £50 must be next week.

W. G.—We should certainly advise you to employ one, as from your letter we imagine that you are entirely ignorant of legal proceedings.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

1. Though everyone will be liable to cause the necessary expenses, the editor cannot accept any correspondence for accidental errors. Questions regarding to be answered the same must reach the office by Wednesday morning of the week previous. Unsolicited MSS., not accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope or wrapper, will be destroyed. Whichever payment is required, you must enclose a stamp. Your question is referred to the editor for his special or left to the editor to answer. All questions should be headed "Legal," "Household," "Miscellaneous," or otherwise, in accordance with their specific character, in order to facilitate classification.

## LEGAL.

INNKEEPER.—1. The income tax should be charged on the real rent. 2. You cannot recover it.

BREACH OF AGREEMENT.—If your husband is the tenant, the agreement cannot be set aside.

PARENT.—You have no authority over the child that is lawfully vested in the mother.

MURKIN.—1. Perfectly legal. 2. Yes. 3. No. 4. No.

S.—We can only recommend you to consult a solicitor. Such very intricate business cases have successfully been accomplished without legal assistance.

TORONTO.—Quite legal.

H.—Not unless he is in receipt of parish relief. In that case, the guardian should, no doubt, count upon her for a contribution.

CONSTANT READER.—I am sorry to inform you that the marriage has not been discovered for the removal of leather furniture.

WILLIAMSON.—Lightly sponge the creases away with benzine, then sponge with clean water very lightly and hang the article to dry and remove smell.

CONSTANT READER.—First, discover some artist who does that sort of work, and then exhibit the child to him as a model.

E. PALMER.—There are numbers of such books, all equally good, but we would not recommend you to get the one you mention.

A. PARKER.—A grammar, dictionary, vocabulary, and exercises.

CONSTANT READER.—First, discover some artist who does that sort of work, and then exhibit the child to him as a model.

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(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)  
ERIC BRIGHTEYES.  
BY  
H. RIDER HAGGARD.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

HOW THE FEAST WENT.

"Hearken all men!" said Eric.  
"Thrust him forth!" quoth Björn.  
"Nay, stay him!" said Ospakar.  
"He is an outlawed man."

"Words first, then deeds," answered Skallagrim. "Thou shalt have thy fill of both, Blacktooth, ere day be done."

"Let Eric say his say," said Gudruda, lifting her head. "He has been doomed unheard, and it is my will that he shall say his say."

"What hast thou to do with Eric?" snarled Ospakar.

"The bride cup is not yet drunk, lord," she made answer.

"To thee, then, I will speak, lady," quoth Eric. "How comes it that, being betrothed to me, thou dost sit there the bride of Ospakar?"

"Ask of Swanhild," said Gudruda in a low voice. "Ask also of Hall of Lithdale, yonder, who brought me Swanhild's gift from Straumeiry."

"I must ask much of Hall and much must he answer," said Eric. "What tale, then, did he bring thee from Straumeiry?"

"He said this, Eric," Gudruda answered: "that thou wast Swanhild's love, that for Swanhild's sake thou hadst basely killed Atli the Good, and that thou wast about to wed Swanhild and take the Earl's seat in Orkneys."

"And for what cause was I made outlaw at the Althing?"

"For this cause, Eric," said Björn, "that thou hadst dealt evilly with Swanhild, bringing her to shame against her will, and thereafter that thou hadst slain the Earl, her husband."

"Which, then, of these tales is true? for both may not be true," said Brighteyes. "Speak, Swanhild."

"Well thou knowest that the last is true," said Swanhild boldly.

"How then comes it that thou didst charge Hall with that message to Gudruda? How then comes it that thou didst send to her that lock of hair which thou didst cozen me to give thee?"

"I charged Hall with no message, and I sent no lock of hair," she answered.

"Stand thou forward, Hall!" said Eric, "and liar and coward thou art, dare not to speak other than the truth! Nay, look not on the door, for if thou stirrest thitherward, this spear shall find thee there thou hast gone a pace."

Now Hall stood forward, trembling with fear, for over he saw the cold eye of Skallagrim watching him close, and whilst Lambstail watched, his fingers toyed with the handle of his axe.

"It is true, lord, that Swanhild charged me with that message which I gave to the Lady Gudruda. Also she made me give the lock of hair."

"And for this service thou didst take money?"

"Ay, lord, she gave me money for my faring."

"And all the while thou knewest the tidings false?"

Hall made no answer.

"Answer!" thundered Eric — "answer the truth, knave, or by every God that passes the hundred gates I will not spare thee twice!"

"It is so, lord," said Hall.

"Thou liest, fox!" said Swanhild, white with wrath and casting an evil look upon him. But men took no heed of Swanhild's words, for all eyes were bent on Eric.

"It is now your pleasure, comrades, that I should show forth the truth?" said Brighteyes.

The most part of the folk shouted "Yea!" but the men of Ospakar stood silent.

"Speak on, Eric," quoth Gudruda.

"This then is the truth. Swanhild the Fatherless, Atli's wife, hath ever sought my love, and even hath she hated Gudruda whom I loved. From a child she has striven to work evil between us. Ay, and she did this, though till now it has been hidden; she strove to murder Gudruda; it was on the day that Skallagrim and I overcame Ospakar and his band on Horse-Head Heights. She thrust her from the brink of Golden Falls, while she sat looking on the waters, and as she hung thence I dragged her back. Is it not so, Gudruda?"

"It is so," said Gudruda.

Now men murmured and looked on Swanhild. But she shrank back, plucking at her purple cloak.

"It was for this cause," went on Eric, "that Asmund, her father, gave her choice to wed Atli the Earl and pass over sea, or take her trial in the doom ring. She wedded Atli and went away. Thereafter, by witchcraft, she brought my ship to wreck on Straumeiry's island, where she walked the waters like a shape of light and lured us on to ruin, so that all were drowned save I and Skallagrim alone. Is it not so, Skallagrim?"

"It is so, lord. I saw her with my eyes."

Again folk murmured.

"Then we must sit in Atli's hall," said Eric, "and there we sat last winter. For a while Swanhild did no ill, till I feared her no more. But some three months gone I was left with her, and a man called Koll, Gudruda's thrall, of whom ye know, came out from Iceland, bringing tidings of the death of Asmund the priest, of Unna my cousin, and of Groz the witch. To these ill-tidings Swanhild bribed him to add somewhat. She bribed him to add this: that thou, Gudruda, wast betrothed to Ospakar, and wouldst wed him on Yule Day. Moreover, he gave me a certain message from thee, Gudruda, and in token of its truth, the half of that coin which I broke with the long years ago. Say, now, lady, didst thou send the coin?"

"Nay, never!" cried Gudruda. "I have for many years lost the half thou gavest me, though I feared to tell thee."

"Perchance one stands there who found it," said Eric, pointing with his spear at Swanhild. "At the least I was deceived by it. Now the tale is short. Swanhild mourned with me, and in my bitterness I mourned full sore. Then it was she craved a boon, of that lock of mine, Gudruda, and I, thinking thee faithless, gave it, holding all oaths broken. Then too, when I would have left her, she dragged me with a witch-draught — ay, shrewdly! — and I woke to find myself false to my oath, false to Atli, and false to thee, Gudruda. I cursed her and I left her, waiting for the Earl, to tell him all. But she outwitted me. She told him

that other tale of shame that ye have heard, and brought Koll to him as witness of the tale. Atli was deceived of her, and not until I had smitten him down, being made mad by the bitter words he spoke, calling me coward and muddering, did he know the truth. But before he died he knew it, and he died, holding my hand and bidding those about him find Koll and slay him. Is it not so, ye who were Atli's men?"

"It is so, Eric!" they cried: "we heard it with our own ears, and Koll we slew. But afterwards Swanhild brought us to believe that Earl Atli was distraught when he spoke thus, and that things were indeed as she had said."

Again men murmured, and a strange light shone in Gudruda's eyes.

"Now, Gudruda, thou hast heard all my tale," said Eric. "Say, dost thou believe me?"

"I believe thee, Eric."

"Say then, wilt thou still wed thee to Ospakar?"

Gudruda looked on Blacktooth, then she looked on golden Eric and opened her lips to speak. But before a word could pass them Ospakar rose in wrath, laying his hand upon his shield.

"Thinkest thou thus to lure away my dove, outlaw? First I will see thee food for crows."

"Well spoken, Blacktooth," laughed Eric. "I looked for such words from thee. Thrice have we striven together — once out yonder in the snow, once on Horse-Head Heights, and once by Westman Isles — and still we live to tell the tale. Come down, Ospakar; come down from that soft seat of thine and here and now let us put it to the proof who is the better man. When we met a fortnight ago, the staves of Whitefire set against my eye. Now the stake is on our lives and Gudruda's hand. Talk no more, Ospakar, but fling it to me!"

"Gudruda shall never wed thee, while I live!" said Björn; "thou art a landless lout, a brawler, and an outlaw. Get thee gone, with thy wolfhound!"

"Squeak not so loud, rat-aqueak not so loud, lest hound's fangs worry thee," said Skallagrim.

"Whether I wed Gudruda or whether I wed her not is a matter that shall be known in its season," said Eric. "For thy words, I say this: that it is ill to hurl names at such as I, Björn, lest perchance I answer them with spear-thrusts. Thy answer, Ospakar! what need to wait? Thy answer!"

Now Ospakar looked on Eric and grew afraid. He was a mighty man, but he knew well the weight of Eric's arm.

"I will not fight with thee, carle," he said, "who hast naught to lose."

"Then thou art coward and niddering!" said Eric. "Ospakar Niddering I name thee here before all men! What! thou couldst plot against me, thou couldst waylay me, twenty to one and two ships to one, but face to face with me thou dost not dare to stand? Comrades, look on your lord!"

"Then thou art a coward and niddering!" said Eric. "Ospakar Niddering I name thee here before all men! What! thou couldst plot against me, thou couldst waylay me, twenty to one and two ships to one, but face to face with me thou dost not dare to stand? Comrades, look on your lord!"

"Then thou art a coward and niddering!" said Eric. "Gudruda, what thinkest thou of thy lord?"

"I know this," said Gudruda, "that I will wed no man who is named Niddering in the face of folk and lifts no sword."

Gudruda spoke thus, because she was mad with fear and anger, and she was faint that Eric should stand face to face with Ospakar Blacktooth, for thereby alone, she might perchance be rid of Ospakar.

"Such words come not well from gentle lips," said Björn.

"It is to be born brother," answered Gudruda, "that the man who would call me wife should be named Ospakar the Niddering." When that shame is washed away, then only can I think on marriage. Niddering's bride I will never be!"

"Thouarest, Ospakar Niddering!" said Eric. Then he gave the spear to his hand, and the spear flies through thy heart, Niddering," cried Eric. "Gudruda, what thinkest thou of thy lord?"

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## THE THEATRES.

## PRINCESS'S.

Mrs. Langtry cannot be congratulated upon the new play by the late Sir Charles Young, entitled "Linda Grey," which after a brief interregnum has superseded "Lady Barter" at the Oxford Street theatre. The piece itself is not only commonplace alike in its motive, characterisation, and incidents, but melodramatically so; and consequently quite uninteresting as regards the impersonation of its heroine to the refined and essentially comedy style of the manageress. The flamboyant, penitent plain and twopenny-coloured personage in question is an actress, linked privately by a marriage of pure affection on both sides to a young English squire, who, while sojourning and performing at New Orleans, is convicted upon concocted circumstantial evidence of assassinating a notorious gambler, to whom he has lost heavily, and is sentenced to death; but before his execution the destruction by fire of the prison in which the wrongly condemned gentleman is incarcerated facilitates his escape, and his return under an assumed name to England, as the result of a sequence of accidental coincidences peculiar to the transatlantic drama, the hero ultimately finds himself tended by his own wife for a broken leg and other damages caused by his being crushed by the wheels of her carriage. Strooping to conquer the actress, divining by instinct that the actual murderer, for which her beloved husband has been doomed to die, is the favourite comedian, Mr. Harry Randall, delights one and all with his description of the merits and demerits of model dwellings, and is also very entertaining whilst reciting a similar diverting narrative. One striking feature of Mr. Riley's entertainment is the excellent manner in which the order of the programme is maintained by Mr. E. V. Page, the courteous acting manager.

According to Dalziel, a "friend" of the late Mr. Lawrence Barrett has stated that the dead actor signed a contract to appear next season with Miss Mary Anderson. Mr. Toole's first welcome home is an assemblage of his personal friends and intimates who will be at a supper given by Mr. Irving on Thursday night at the Lyceum, in the former grill room of the old Gridiron Club. The popular comedian's own theatre is to be redecorated before his return to it later on in the season. — Mr. Jones, prolific as he is popular, has already another new play well on the way towards completion, besides a trifle in one act he has promised to write for the amateur theatre at Bushey, conducted by Mr. Herkimer, who is to reciprocate artistically to the dramatist by putting him in counterfeit presentation on to canvas. — The pretty little piece entitled "My Lady Help," originally brought out at the Shaftesbury, now precedes "The Henrietta" at the Avenue, with Miss Florence West again seen in her clever assumption of the heroine. — Miss Alma Murray is to enact the heroine in a one-act play by Mr. Alec Nelson, entitled "Judith Shakspeare" (the name of the dramatist's daughter), to be acted at the next performance given by the "Independents." — The Vandeleur Theatre, under management which have always included Mr. Thomas Thorne, will "come of age" on Thursday next, when a befitting presentation is to be made by the professional brethren and sisters of the present master of the house. — "Baby" is the title given by its authoress, Lady Greville, — it is to be said to a farce, lately tried at the Brighton Theatre, and as the result forthwith as the opening item of the bill at Terry's — Mr. Haddon Chambers' little play "A Pipe of Peace" just accepted for the St. James's is its author's adaptation of his story, which under the same name was published in the "Argosy." Contained in two acts, the piece will be first produced by Mr. Alexander at a matinee but not with a view to its transference as the main attraction into the evening programme of his theatre. — So pronounced is the success of "L'Enfant Prodigue," at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, that Mr. Soler has resolved to cut short the run of "Maid Marian" for the purpose of placing this dramatic story told in dumb show in the evening programme on and after Thursday, the 16th inst.

## MOTHER AND DAUGHTER SENTENCED TO DEATH.

One of the most painful scenes ever witnessed in an assize court is reported from Christchurch, New Zealand, when a mother and daughter, named respectively Sarah Jane and Anna Flanagan, were sentenced to death for the murder of the illegitimate child of the latter. According to the evidence of the society found her, took charge of her, communicated with her employer, and saw that she safely reached her destination. — The Hon. Victoria Grosvenor gave some interesting details of the way in which the society had carried on its operations since it was started, mainly by Mrs. Townsend in Lancashire, and it was given out that they were going to make a short stay in Italy, and then return to Cannes. In reality, however, they went to San Remo, where the marriage was privately solemnised. Neither the prince nor the grand duke will return to Cannes during the present season. The grand duke who is 29 years of age, was an aide-de-camp to the emperor and colonel of one of the guard regiments of the 4th Battery of Horse Artillery, and of the 49th Regiment of infantry. By the Czar's decree his imperial highness left Cannes on the 3rd inst. with the Prince of Nassau and the young contessa, and it was given out that they were going to make a short stay in Italy, and then return to Cannes. In reality, however, they went to San Remo, where the marriage was privately solemnised. Neither the prince nor the grand duke will return to Cannes during the present season. The grand duke who is 29 years of age, was an aide-de-camp to the emperor and colonel of one of the guard regiments of the 4th Battery of Horse Artillery, and of the 49th Regiment of infantry. By the Czar's decree his imperial highness is deprived of all these commands.

ENGLISH GIRLS ABROAD.

At a meeting held at St. James's-square, on behalf of the Girls' Friendly Society in the Northern and Central Europe, the Bishop of London said the society was organised to give assistance to young women, especially those of the lowest ranks, of good character, and experience had shown that that assistance was of great value on emergencies. The members of the society were of two kinds, ordinary members and associates (ladies of the Church of England) who took charge of the welfare of the members. In illustration of the work, he cited the case of a young Swiss governess, who came to England to take a situation in one of the eastern counties. Arrived in London she lost the train and her way, and as she could speak but little English, and was ill supplied with money, her position might have become desperate but for the fact that an associate of the society found her, took charge of her, communicated with her employer, and saw that she safely reached her destination. — The Hon. Victoria Grosvenor gave some interesting details of the way in which the society had carried on its operations since it was started, mainly by Mrs. Townsend in Lancashire, and it was given out that they were going to make a short stay in Italy, and then return to Cannes. In reality, however, they went to San Remo, where the marriage was privately solemnised. Neither the prince nor the grand duke will return to Cannes during the present season. The grand duke who is 29 years of age, was an aide-de-camp to the emperor and colonel of one of the guard regiments of the 4th Battery of Horse Artillery, and of the 49th Regiment of infantry. By the Czar's decree his imperial highness left Cannes on the 3rd inst. with the Prince of Nassau and the young contessa, and it was given out that they were going to make a short stay in Italy, and then return to Cannes. In reality, however, they went to San Remo, where the marriage was privately solemnised. Neither the prince nor the grand duke will return to Cannes during the present season. The grand duke who is 29 years of age, was an aide-de-camp to the emperor and colonel of one of the guard regiments of the 4th Battery of Horse Artillery, and of the 49th Regiment of infantry. By the Czar's decree his imperial highness is deprived of all these commands.

A SHOCKING STORY.

The Cheshire papers contain the report of an inquest at Winsford, at which there were shocking revelations. The inquiry was touching the death of the infant female child of Elizabeth Fletcher, 16, unmarried. — Thomas Fletcher, a labourer, and father of Elizabeth, said his daughter was confined on the previous Tuesday. There was only one bed in the house, and when his daughter's sweetheart came he slept upstairs with the witness while she stopped downstairs. — Then you allowed your daughter no bed at all? — Witness: Well she would not have any. — Sergeant Harrington: Where did your daughter sleep when there were no lodgers? — Witness: She slept in the same bed as me. — The Coroner: Do you mean to admit that you allowed your own daughter to sleep with you? — Witness: Well, sir, she slept with me all alone ever since she was a little one. — The Coroner: Do you call yourself a father? You ought to be ashamed of yourself, for you're a thorough disgrace. — The witness said his daughter told him that her sweetheart was the father of the child. — The coroner, in summing up, said he could not conceive that such a condition of things existed in any civilised country. — The jury returned as a verdict that the child died from exhaustion during birth, accelerated by want of medical attention.

A SMOKELESS LONDON.

The Prince of Wales and the Empress Frederick have initiated a movement which, in the expectation of its promoters, is destined to have remarkable results in procuring the abatement of the smoke nuisance in the metropolis. The boon which is offered to Londoners is the adoption of a fuel which is claimed to be absolutely smokeless at a price which will probably not exceed that of ordinary coal. Mr. Koopmann is the inventor and introducer of this new commodity fabricated under the Paulsen patent. The Prince of Wales conducted the Empress Frederick into an engine-room, where an ordinary boiler was fed with the smokeless fuel in the form of blocks or briquettes. Mr. Koopmann's cubes burn clearly and freely, giving off at first a yellow flame, which gradually turns blue. The combustion appears colourless and complete, but in the failing light it was difficult to see whether no smoke whatever was given forth. There was a good deal of curiosity as to the system of manufacture, but the secret was not disclosed, except in so far that it was stated that the materials used were small coal, or "slack" pitch, and a certain mineral, which were all mixed together in a disintegrator, and then moulded under a pressure of two tons to the square inch. Colliery proprietors, before a market was found for their small coal—which may average from 25 to 50 per cent of the output, according to quality—used to sell it for £1 per ton, give it away, or leave it to burn in great heaps. Since briquettes have been introduced this was had a value of £1 a ton.

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THE SCOTTISH RAILWAY.

One of the results of the Scotch railway strike will, it is said by a correspondent, be the amalgamation of the various railway societies now in existence in different parts of the country. Of course, nothing definite will be decided upon without full opportunity being given to the members of the organisations concerned to express their views.

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## LAST WEEK'S ITEMS.

## SHOCKING TREATMENT OF A CHILD AT WANDSWORTH.

WILLIAM McCULLUM, 35, a grocer's assistant, late of Bankton-road, Brixton, while walking along Norwood-road staggered off the footway and fell into a ditch. When extricated he was found to be dead. The death was reported of Samuel Louis Angel, aged 2, whose parents live at Bedford-street, Mile End, who was admitted to the London Hospital suffering from burns, caused by his clothes catching fire during the temporary absence of the mother.

The death was announced at North Park, Croydon, of Mr. Stephenon Clarke, of the firm of Stephenon, Clarke, and Co. The deceased gentleman had devoted much of his energies to philanthropic schemes, all the local charities having been benefited by his generosity.

Joseph Mason, 60, of West Kilburn, was walking along the street when he tripped on a water hydrant plate and slipped, severely lacerating his forehead. He was conveyed to the London Hospital.

While a vanload of peat was being drawn into the Canonbury depot of the North Metropolitan Tramway Company one of the wheels struck a post, and two of the hales fell, striking a stoneman named Biggs, and so severely injuring him that he was taken to the Great Northern Central Hospital, Holloway-road.

It was found that the wards were all full, and the injured man was taken on to the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn-road. There the accident wards were full, but an extra bed was made up for Biggs' accommodation.

David Reid Kay, 26 months old, son of the proprietor of the Duke of Wellington Tavern, Camden Grove, Peckham, fell on the fire and was so severely burned that he died in St. Thomas's Hospital.

A young man who was found drowned in the Thames near London Bridge, was identified as Frederick Ashby, 17, the coffee-room cashier at the Unionist Club in Pall Mall.

Emma, the five-years-old child of Mr. Samuel Poynter, of Great Orchard-rows, Camberwell, fell into the fire and was seriously burnt. She was removed to St. Thomas's Hospital.

Maria McEve, 61, head laundress at Lambeth Old Workhouse, Princes-road, Lambeth, was taken suddenly ill in Lambeth Walk. Upon being assisted home to the workhouse she died almost immediately.

Esther Sophia Johnson, aged 6, daughter of a packer living in Wickesbury-road, Battersea, was skipping on the pavement when a boy tripped on the rope causing her to fall. The child died of the injuries thus received.

Water Smith, liftman at the Army and Navy Stores, living at Taubbrook-street, while manipulating the lift got his head in an aperture as it was descending, and was struck by the lift. He sustained a fractured skull and was taken to the Westminster Hospital.

Edward Dobson, 45, was putting down asphalt pavement in the city when he upset a vessel containing a quantity of boiling tar, and was shockingly burned about the body. He was taken to St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

Joseph Woodward, aged 51, of Silcock-street, Camberwell, was crossing the roadway at Whitehall, when he slipped and fell down, breaking his collar bone. He was taken to Charing Cross Hospital.

Yorick Scovell, a little boy, of Causton-street, Westminster, was run over by a cabman in Regency-street, Westminster, and sustained internal injuries. He was taken to Westminster Hospital.

Clara Holloway, 39, of Farringdon, near Alton, Hants, was taken to the Middlesex Hospital having been brought to undergo an operation, she having swallowed some artificial teeth which lodged in the esophagus.

At the Middlesex Hospital, Alice Campbell, of Church-street, Tottenham-court-road; Alite Smith, 36, of Stephen-street, Tottenham-court-road; and Albert Naylor, 13, of Berwick-street, Soho, were treated in the Middlesex Hospital.

John James Liddicott, aged 5, son of a boot-maker, of Nicholas-street, Shoreditch, while swinging with some other children fell on the back of his head, and died from dropsy set up by the injuries.

Mr. Doughty, steward of the West Newton Conservative Club, was buried at Nunhead Cemetery. He was much respected by the Conservatives of the neighbourhood. Though 60 years of age his death was unexpected. The widow and son of the deceased were the principal mourners.

Official despatches received at Lisbon announced that the insurgent natives in the Portuguese colony of Bissau, West Coast of Africa, have been completely defeated.

Partial strikes commenced among the masons in Barcelona, necessitating the stopping of work at several large buildings in course of construction. The total number of workmen idle amounts to 20,000.

The foundation-stone of the Langenberg Institution, named after the late Professor Langenberg, physician in ordinary to the Emperor William I, was laid at Berlin in the presence of numerous members of the Surgical Congress.

A man named Joseph Paulus, while sinking a dry well recently at Goschen, Indiana, struck a steady flow of petr leum. This is the first petroleum discovered in this state, which was supposed to be outside the oil belt, and the news has caused great excitement.

The agreement for the reduction to five shillings per word of the cable rates between England and Australia, excepting Queensland and New Zealand, was signed by Sir Arthur Blyth, on behalf of the colonies, and by Sir John Pender, representing the cable companies. The reduced rates are to come into force on the 1st proximo.

A document was forwarded from Dublin to Mr. Parnell's supporters throughout the country, asking for returns as to the number of Parnellites, Conservatives, and Gladstonites in each district, and the relative strength of the parties in the public boards.

It is asserted by the M'Carthites that the inquires as to the strength of the Conservative party is an indication that Mr. Parnell relies upon the Conservatives for a majority at the elections.

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The man, Henry Cooper, who last Saturday week murdered his wife by cutting her throat at his house at Moor Common, near Marlow, and against whom the jury at the inquest on the 31st ult. found a verdict of wilful murder, died on the 4th inst., shortly before six p.m.

It will be remembered that Cooper endeavoured to commit suicide after the murder by cutting his throat and stabbing himself.

He had been lying in Marlow Cottage Hospital during the week in a precarious condition and never recovered consciousness.

## MARRIAGE OF MISS GLADYS KNOWLES.

At Brighton, before the registrar, Miss Gladys Knowles, who recently recovered 20,000 damages from Mr. Leslie Duncan for breach of promise of marriage, was last week married to Mr. Alfred Prager, a London dentist. Owing to a recent family bereavement, the marriage was the simplest description, only the immediate members of the family being present, among whom were Sir Francis Knowles, the venerable baronet, and Elizabeth Winthrop, her godmother, both of whom signed

father of the bride, and Lady

Winthrop, her godmother, both of whom signed

the register. Mr.

Prager is a well-known practitioner in dental surgery, and has some reputation as an artist, being frequently represented at the exhibitions of the Royal Institute and other art galleries. He is also an occasional writer of lyrics, and his latest work is ready for the press. It may be remembered that a portrait

from his brush of the lady who is now his wife was exhibited at one of the London galleries some two or three years ago. Mr. Prager's studio, though small, contains many portraits of celebrities.

## MR. LABOUCHERE'S RADICAL PROGRAMME.

By the invitation of Mr. E. J. Beale, Gladstone's candidate for South St. Pancras, the Gladstone candidates for the various London constituencies met Mr. Labouchere at Stokey-deep House, Teddington, on the 4th inst. Among those present, in addition to the host and the members for Northampton, were Messrs. Stewart, Waller, Captain Cecil-Borton, Messrs. W. D. Barrett, T. Thomson, J. Hayman, W. Staples, T. Lough, Ecclestone, Webb, and Alderman G. Wells. Referring to the toast of his health, Mr. Labouchere said that from a Radical point of view he thought the outlook was most hopeful. In Ireland Mr. Parnell had been overwhelmingly defeated in two pitched battles, and fearing a third and more personal defeat had sneaked out of his challenge to Mr. Healy in the meanest and most contemptible manner. He was of opinion that in the event of a speedy appeal to the people Mr. Parnell would not carry more than six seats, and with them and those which might be captured in the north by the Tories it would still allow of seventy members pledged to support Mr. Gladstone's Home Rule measure being returned to Parliament. In England he did not believe they had lost one vote by Mr. Parnell's unpatriotic action, for all Gladstone's voters were now thorough-going Home Rulers. For the people of Ireland, he was not sure they would not benefit very largely by the abolition of the dictatorship which stifled their voice and action. He believed that at the general election the Gladstones would win in the north outside of Lancashire, would win in the midlands, and improve their position in the west of England. He doubted very much whether they would gain in the home counties, where the squires and the parsons drove the labourers to the poll like sheep. It was, therefore, imperative that they should do well in London, and to succeed there it would be necessary to fight on a programme that would command itself to the ratepayers. The programme he would suggest was the following:—Fuller powers to the County Council, the taxation of ground rents and unoccupied land, and the equalisation of rates. As for the country generally Home Rule no doubt, blocked the way, and there would be a second election owing to the action of the House of Lords, who would, however, be overwhelmed by the popular vote, and if they persisted would be swamped by the creation of Gladstone peers. Still, the Radicals would press for great reforms in the legislative machinery of the country, acknowledgement of the principle of one man one vote, and a residential franchise and the payment of members.

THE MARLOW TRAGEDY.

DEATH OF THE MURDERER.

The man, Henry Cooper, who last Saturday

week murdered his wife by cutting her throat at his house at Moor Common, near Marlow, and against whom the jury at the inquest on the 31st ult. found a verdict of wilful murder, died on the 4th inst., shortly before six p.m.

It will be remembered that Cooper endeavoured to commit suicide after the murder by cutting his throat and stabbing himself.

He had been lying in Marlow Cottage Hospital during the week in a precarious condition and never recovered consciousness.

THE EIGHT HOURS' DAY.

The engine men and stokers employed at the Cymmer Collieries, Rhondda Valley, have given notice to strike work for an eight hours' day.

FIREMEN ON STRIKE.

On hearing that the Andover Town Council had accepted the report of the Fire Brigade Committee, recommending the disbandment of the present brigade, the members of the latter held a meeting and decided to give up their helmets and uniforms on the 31st ult.

Accordingly, on the evening of that day, they carried out their decision. Fireman Newman of the Black Swan, procured a ladder and removed the plate "Fireman" from the front of his premises, and carrying the "hooter," horn, helmet, tunic, &c., which he had in his possession as a member of the brigade, he joined the other men who also carried their equipments, and all of them marched down the High-street and waited in front of the shop of Mr. Shipton, the captain, who proceeded with them to the town hall. The captain had previously communicated their intention to the surveyor, and his worship with the surveyor Mr. Parsons, was in attendance in the corn exchange. People who had been watching with curiosity the movements of the firemen in the High-street, collected in front of the town hall whilst the men went inside. A lengthy discussion took place, and eventually the men left in a body, the surveyor having taken their names and equipments. A crowd still remained outside the building, and cheered lustily when the men appeared. The men afterwards had supper together at the Black Swan.

A potman living at 65, Alice-street, Bermondsey New-road, employed at the Woodman public-house, John-street, applied for admittance at Guy's Hospital on the 11th inst. He was refused, and subsequently applied at the Bermondsey Workhouse and at the police station without receiving any assistance. He then returned to his employer's house, but on reaching the door fell dead.

A despatch from Buenos Ayres says, it is generally believed there that the Argentine Government will be compelled to introduce forced paper currency.

A contradiction was given to the statement that apprehensions are entertained at Lisbon of the renewal of revolutionary disturbances in Portugal.

Mr. Milner, Under-secretary of State for Finance, has left Cairo for London via Athens, on three months' leave of absence. Mr. Milner is authorised to effect the conversion of the Domain Loan.

A fatal result of an accident in the football field occurred recently at Southport. A young man named Gainer, who was playing for the Churchoftown Club on Good Friday at Southport, against Little Lever, fell during the match with his wrist underhim. He was taken home, and a small bone was removed. He made good progress until lockjaw set in, from which he died.

THE PEOPLE, SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 1891.

LAST WEEK'S ITEMS.

SHOCKING TREATMENT OF A CHILD AT WANDSWORTH.

An inquest was held at Wandsworth on the 4th inst. as to the death of George Watkins, aged 2, Emma Watkins, of Gloucester-terrace, Earlsfield, wife of a compositor, stated that she had not been living with her husband for some years. She was confined in the workhouse, and after staying there a fortnight she went to a Mrs. Wood, at Grattan-road. Since the child was nine months old it had remained in the charge of Mrs. Wood. It was then delicate, but not wasted away as the body now appeared to be. Witness visited the child and frequently found it in a very dirty condition, always lying in the cradle. The doctor who saw it ordered milk and beef-tea, and witness told Mrs. Wood to give it that. Mrs. Wood told her that the child was always eating well. Witness saw it on Sunday, when it appeared to be very ill. By a Jurymen: She only earned 6s. 6d. a week, out of which she paid Mrs. Wood 4s., and that amount was not in arrear.

DIPPED IN COLD WATER.

Mary Waller, 14, of Fromhill-place, Wandsworth, deposed that Mrs. Wood was her aunt, whom she used to visit. On such occasions the child was always in the cradle. She had never seen it fed. Witness was there on Sunday, and she saw her aunt fill a pail with cold water and put the child in it for the purpose of washing it. (Mr. Wood, who was present: Tell the truth, Mary.) When she was washing the baby the witness asked her if she had washed its face, as it looked dark, and Mrs. Wood replied, "Yes, I have washed it; they are bruises." Witness then noticed bruises on both sides of the face. Her aunt said they were caused by the child falling out of the cradle. By a Jurymen: There were no rocks to the cradle, and the child was not strong enough to get up and fall out. —Sarah Waller, 11, sister of the last witness, deposed that she had been living with her aunt for five or six weeks previous to Christmas. While there witness used to wash the deceased in warm water, and Mrs. Wood did so in cold. The baby was in a very dirty condition, and portions of its body were never washed, being quite swollen. One witness spoke to her about it, she said, "It served it right," at the same time picking it up and knocking it down again.

PUT IN THE SINK AND LEFT NAKED.

One night Mrs. Wood got up and smacked the child six times as hard as she could. On another occasion Mrs. Wood stripped the child, and putting it in the sink, turned the cold water on it. The baby screamed, and afterwards had a shivering fit.

Mrs. Wood then took its clothes out into the back yard and left the deceased lying naked on the floor for upwards of half an hour. Mrs. Wood, on another occasion, came home drunk and dropped it on the floor. She was frequently the worse for drink on Saturdays and Sundays.

SHADE MADE FUN OF.

The mother used to visit the deceased, and made fun of it, saying, "There's a little skinny-guts." —Dr. Thompson, of Earlsfield, the medical officer to the workhouse where the child was born, said that he had frequently seen it since. It was very delicate, and required great care. When he first visited it he found it was being given improper food. He saw it about three weeks before death. It was then suffering from consumption of the bowels. It gradually got worse, and died on the afternoon of the 31st from abdominal tuberculosis. —Dr. Smith, who made a post-mortem examination, said that the body, which was extremely emaciated, only weighed 8lb. 14oz. There was not a particle of fat in the body, and only a trace of muscle. The cause of death was bronchitis and congestion of the lungs. —The coroner said that the case assumed a very serious complexion, and adjourned the inquiry for a week that further inquiries might be made.

THE STOKE NEWINGTON MYSTERY.

A STRANGE STORY.

In connection with the mysterious disappearance of the young man, Frank Strachan, a clerk in the Prudential Insurance Company, from his home in Grayling-road, Stoke Newington, on January 31st last, and whose body was found in Pace's Lock, on the river Lea on February 5th, with a bullet in the head, a somewhat strange and mysterious incident has come to light. The circumstances were fully reported in the *People* at the time, and a portrait of the missing man was also published.

It may be remembered that at the inquest before Coroner Macdonald on February 11th, a much-blurred letter—which it was said, had only that morning been found in one of the pockets of the clothing taken from the body after its recovery from the water—was produced. This letter, which was supposed to be in the handwriting of the deceased, was to the effect that he was tired of life, and that no one but himself was to blame for what had occurred. Upon this evidence, a verdict of suicide was returned.

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LAST WEEK'S  
LAW AND POLICE.

## City of London Court.

A WIDE-AWAKE WITNESS.—Mr. J. Higgs, traveller to Messrs. Kirker, Greer, and Co., whisky merchants, Marl-lane, appeared to a judgment summons, taken out by Mr. James Snelling, of the Princess Tavern, Wardour-street, who sought to have him committed to Holloway for non-payment of £29, for which judgment had been obtained.—Mr. Dan. J. Fox, a wine merchant, having an office communicating with that defendant's employer, who was subpoenaed to give evidence of means, demanded and received half-guineas before being sworn, and then—to the great amusement of the court—coolly stated that he knew nothing whatever of the defendant's salary or earnings. The plaintiff had subpoenaed the wrong man. (Laughter.)—The defendant stated that his total earnings for the last year had averaged about six guineas a week, but as he had to call upon publicans, he found, like many other people, that that was a very expensive business.—His honour did not doubt that, and being informed that defendant's total liabilities did not exceed £50, remarked that he would make arrangements by which defendant would pay all his creditors equally. The case would stand over for three weeks to allow the defendant to file a request for administration. These actions were brought in the High Court, and then solicitors had the impudence to come and tell him the costs were not higher than in this court.

## City Summons Court.

A CYCLIST'S COMPLAINT.—A cabman, badge 15,483, was summoned for driving his horse and hansom cab to the danger of the public in Holborn.—The evidence showed that Mr. Walsh, of Kentish Town, a watchmaker, was riding his bicycle along Holborn, and just as he was about to dismount, the defendant, who was driving a horse and hansom cab at about twelve miles an hour, ran into his machine, throwing him into the road. The result was that his right shoulder was dislocated. After he was thrown off by the head, the defendant exclaimed, "Why didn't you get out of the way?" Defendant now stated that Mr. Walsh drove past him on the wrong side, and he did not run into him. He had driven a cab for twenty-one years and never before been summoned.—Sir Henry Isaacs said he had no doubt of defendant's guilt. As he had a clean record, he would not send him to prison, but impose a fine of 4s. and costs.

## Guildhall.

THE CONSEQUENCES OF BETTING.—Frederick Coppard, 21, junior clerk, in the employ of the Akambo Gold Mining Company, was charged on remand, with stealing a cheque for £3 10s., belonging to his employers.—Mr. Walter Beard prosecuted, and explained that certain calls were due to the company by shareholders, who, instead of sending their cheques to the company's bankers, sent them to the office of the company. The prisoner seemed to have taken advantage of his position in the office and stole the letters and utilised the contents. In a little book which was found upon him there were memos relating to other cheques and remittances which he had stolen, and at the time of his arrest four unopened letters containing cheques were found in his pocket. Not only had the accused stolen about £40 in this way, but he had falsified the accounts. The specific cheque with which he was charged with having stolen happened to be a crossed one, but he used it by paying it to the company's bankers to the credit of another shareholder whose remittance he had stolen in order to hide, as it were, his guilt. He gave as an excuse difficulties through betting.—The manager of the company stated that he was instructed to ask that prisoner might be dealt with leniently. His family were most respectable, and the prisoner had hitherto behaved himself in such a way as to obtain the greatest confidence of his employers.—Mr. Alderman Newton, in dealing with the case under the First Offenders Act, and binding over his mother to bring him up for judgment if called upon, commented very strongly upon the evil practice of betting.

## Bow-street.

VICTIMISED CLERK.—Herbert Grant, alias Ancelot, an advertising agent, was charged with obtaining two sums of £50 each by means of false pretences from two young men.—Joseph E. Connor, a collector, said that on the 14th February, 1890, he saw an advertisement in a daily paper for a clerk in a position of trust. Witness replied, and received a letter making an appointment, and had an interview with the prisoner, who said his name was Ancelot, and that he had inserted the advertisement. He asked witness for references. He said witness' engagement would be to bring money from the bank, and to undertake English correspondence. He said he was a foreign provision merchant, and would require a deposit of £50 as security. Witness was to receive 2s. per week, and interest at the rate of 1 per cent. on his deposit. The agreement was signed, and the money duly paid on these representations. Witness entered on his duties, and remained there three days. The first day he walked about, the second he looked for a shop the prisoner said he wanted to rent, and on the third day received a letter from the prisoner requesting him to make inquiries at Stamford Hill about a private residence, and meet him at his (witness's) father's house, at one o'clock. He waited some time, but as the prisoner did not appear, witness went to the office. He failed to see the accused, and heard nothing more of him until he was arrested at Manchester on another charge.—Albert Henry Davies, living at Stratford, Essex, deposed that at the latter end of last year, he saw a similar advertisement for a clerk at 30s. per week salary on deposit of £50 as security. Witness replied, had an interview with the prisoner, and believing the offer to be genuine, agreed to accept it and deposited the money.—The prisoner was remanded.

## Worship-street.

STRANGLING CONTRACT OF A CUSTOMS OFFICER.—William Davis, 17, of Flower and Dean-street, Spitalfields, was charged with being concerned, with four others not in custody in strangling the person of Thomas Schutz, a gas watch and chain, value £5.—Prosecutor, he had signed the charge-sheet as an illiterate person by making his mark describing himself as an examining officer of customs, living in East Arbour-street. He said that on Wednesday afternoon he was in Mile End-road, and could not say he was sober. According to the evidence of Moses Bendon, he was nearly incapable, drunk, and "laid down on the pavement." In that condition a gang got around him, and when he was put on his feet and staggered away, they followed and pretended to assist him. Then he fell again and one of the gang stole his watch and chain. He was helped up by Bendon, who interfered, and was assaulted by the prisoner. The latter also assaulted the prosecutor and ran off. The prisoner was apprehended on Friday night.—Mr. Bushby ordered a remand.

## West London.

ALLEGED FRAUD BY A DEBT COLLECTOR.—George Brown, a debt collector, living at Willesden, was charged with assaulting Edward Starling, an omnibus conductor, of Langton-street, Chelsea.—Starling said that when on his last journey on Friday night, in Piccadilly, he got on to the top of the omnibus to cover the seats. Morris, who was riding inside, took advantage of this to jump out, and run up the Albany Courtney, without having paid his fare. Calling to him to stop, witness followed him, and, on succeeding in catching him, told him he considered that he had been guilty of a very unmanly action. Morris threatened to punch him, nevertheless he paid his fare. As witness was returning to the omnibus, he was struck a violent blow on the neck.—P.C. 337 said he witnessed the assault, and took the defendant into custody.—Mr. Newton fined the collector.

## Marlborough-street.

ASSAULTS ON OMNIBUS CONDUCTOR.—Charles Morris, 21, labourer, of Seaton-street, Hampstead-road, was charged with assaulting Edward Starling, an omnibus conductor, of Langton-street, Chelsea.—Starling said that when on his last journey on Friday night, in Piccadilly, he got on to the top of the omnibus to cover the seats. Morris, who was riding inside, took advantage of this to jump out, and run up the Albany Courtney, without having paid his fare. Calling to him to stop, witness followed him, and, on succeeding in catching him, told him he considered that he had been guilty of a very unmanly action. Morris threatened to punch him, nevertheless he paid his fare. As witness was returning to the omnibus, he was struck a violent blow on the neck.—P.C. 337 said he witnessed the assault, and took the defendant into custody.—Mr. Newton fined the collector.

## North London.

AN AMERICAN LADY'S DILEMMA.—Among the applicants to Mr. Fenwick was a middle-

fore she moved the prisoner walked across the road. The next instant she thought of her purse, and feeling in her pocket, found that it was gone.—P.C. 337 D said that Miss Lassen gave the prisoner into his custody. He caught hold of his arm the prisoner threw the purse away. The address he gave was correct.—M' Bree said that he was very sorry for having committed the theft. He was hard up, and in want.—Mr. Newton remanded him.

## Marylebone.

A POLICEMAN'S "QUIET" NIGHT.—John James Robins, 31, a cabman, of Hayes-place, Marylebone, was charged with disorderly conduct; and Alfred Paisley, 30, a cabman, of Kilburn Park-road, was charged with attempting to rescue Robin from custody.—P.C. Stone 117 D, said he heard cries of "Police" and "Murder" about two o'clock that morning, and on going into Crawford-street he found Mr. and Mrs. Welton, shopkeepers, having a row. A hansom cab drove up and stopped, and a man got on to the spring of the cab. Witness told him to get off and go away, and then Robins obstructed witness and asked what right he had to interfere. Witness ordered Robins to go about his business, but the latter defied him and told him to go and look after "Jack the Ripper." (Laughter.) Witness took him into custody, and Paisley at once attempted to rescue him.—P.C. 136 D said he was attracted to the spot by the screams, and he found a crowd of people there. P.C. Stone ordered a man to get off the spring of a cab, when Robins interfered with him in the execution of his duty.—The Magistrate: How?—The Witness: By hallooing and shouting. P.C. 117 D took him into custody.—The Magistrate: What for?—The Witness: For obstructing him in the execution of his duty.—The Magistrate: How did he obstruct him?—No answer.—P.C. Potter, 194 D (gauntly): I can explain all about it, as I saw it all.—Mr. Partridge (facetiously): Was it a quiet night last night? Was there nothing much to do, eh? (Laughter.) Potter then gave evidence of hearing the cries of "Murder" and going into the house. There were several people outside the house.—Mr. Partridge (facetiously): Was the murdered woman there? (A laugh.)—Potter went on to say that the woman had been brutally assaulted. Robins was there, and when P.C. Stone ordered him to go away Robins abused him shamefully.—Mr. Partridge (to the prisoners): You are discharged. The interference of the police was quite unnecessary. That is to say, there was no ground for taking these men into custody.

## Thames

ALLEGED UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF WATCHES.—Walter Scott, 21, an engineer, of the Albion Hotel, Blackfriars, was charged with being concerned with Charles Brown and John Brown (already in custody) with the unlawful possession of 23 silver watches and a gold gem ring.—At the London Dock an immense quantity of jewellery had been discovered by the police supposed to have been stolen, and as the two Browns were implicated in the affair it was only proposed to offer sufficient evidence to justify a remand, when Scott would be brought up and charged conjointly with the two Browns.—On Good Friday W. French, an inspector of the London Dock police, stopped W. Brown as he was leaving the principal entrance of the dock, and on searching him he found twenty-three silver watches concealed about his person. Inspector French questioned him as to his possession of the watches. The prisoner said that a second-class passenger on board the Umbria had given them to him, and he was to wait at the gate until he came up. He afterwards said the steward of the Umbria knew all about it. John Brown was next taken into custody by Cunner, a detective-superintendent of the H Division, and he was found in possession of a silver watch and an Albert chain. The property found on the prisoners was stated to be part of the proceeds of a burglary committed at an hotel at Port Natal.

BREAKING INTO THE EARL OF STAFFORD'S OFFICE.—James F. Horn, 12, Henry Oliver, 9, and John Tolley, 8, schoolboys, were charged with breaking and entering the office of Weston's Wharf and stealing therefrom seven keys, the property of the Earl of Stafford.—William Pettit stated that on Thursday morning he found the window of the office had been opened, and a man, with which it had been fastened, had been taken. He missed a bunch of keys. He afterwards saw Oliver and Tolley, and asked them if they knew anything about them. They replied they did, and that they were at a rag shop. They all went there and obtained the keys.—Mr. Dickinson was informed that Horn had been previously convicted for house-breaking, and remanded the lads for a week.

## Lambeth.

THE ALLEGED FRAUDS OF A BENEFIT SOCIETY.—Henry Mizen alias Day, a described Society Conductor of a Customs Officer.—William Davis, 17, of Flower and Dean-street, Spitalfields, was charged with being concerned, with four others not in custody in strangling the person of Thomas Schutz, a gas watch and chain, value £5.—Prosecutor, he had signed the charge-sheet as an illiterate person by making his mark describing himself as an examining officer of customs, living in East Arbour-street. He said that on Wednesday afternoon he was in Mile End-road, and could not say he was sober. According to the evidence of Moses Bendon, he was nearly incapable, drunk, and "laid down on the pavement." In that condition a gang got around him, and when he was put on his feet and staggered away, they followed and pretended to assist him. Then he fell again and one of the gang stole his watch and chain. He was helped up by Bendon, who interfered, and was assaulted by the prisoner. The latter also assaulted the prosecutor and ran off. The prisoner was apprehended on Friday night.—Mr. Bushby ordered a remand.

## Greenwich.

ASSAULTING A BARMAN.—Margaret Willis, 49, of 1, Chichester Buildings, Deptford, was charged with assaulting Sarah Richmond, barmaid at the Yeoman public-house, Chitter-street, Deptford, by striking her in the face with her fist; also with assaulting Captain Young, the barmen.—The prisoner was served with beer, refused to pay for it, slapped the barmen's face, and walked off out of the house with the beer. The barmen followed her, when she scratched his face, and on being arrested declared that she could "do" for the barmen with one hand.—Mr. Marham fined her 2s. or fourteen days.

## Croydon.

WRECKING A WORKHOUSE MILL-ROOM.—Vinegar Moon, a pauper inmate of the Holborn Union Workhouse, Mitcham, was charged on remand with故意ly committing damage to the mill-room to the extent of £20.—Alfred Wallis, superintendent of labour, said that on a Tuesday morning the prisoner was put in the punishment cell, and was unconscious. They also found on a table in their mother's handwriting which ran as follows:—"God bless you all. I am best from you. Tell your father I love him as I always have done. He is the cause of this, but don't let him worry." After giving directions as to the return of some needlework the deceased had been doing, the deceased continued:—"Go to Harry. (The Daughter: That is my brother.) Go to Harry and your friends, and also Eliza (the other daughter), who has been good to me. Don't fret. God bless you all. Both keep in the right path. Fear God, and He will care for you." There was also found on the table beside this note a bottle which had contained laudanum. A doctor was called in and the deceased removed to Paddington Workhouse Infirmary, where she died an hour and a half afterwards from the effects of laudanum poisoning.—The jury returned a verdict of suicide while of unsound mind.

THE FIGHT DID NOT KILL HIM.—An inquest was held respecting the death of John Waaland, 13, the son of a house decorator, of Willis-street, Bromley.—Elizabeth Waaland, the mother, deposed that deceased had been under treatment at Shadwell and St. Bartholomew's Hospitals, as he had suffered from a diseased hip. A fortnight ago he complained of pains in his head, and witness then learnt that he had been fighting with some boys, and had had a fall. A doctor was called in, but death took place on Thursday, the 2nd inst.—George Burton, furniture dealer, stated that he saw the deceased and another lad struggling together, and both fell. The boy's mother afterwards called about it, and said that she would "pull the boy's liver out." (Laughter.) Henry Newcome, a little boy, who came into the court crying, said that deceased offered to fight him and three other boys. Nothing more could be got out of the boy, so the coroner told him to go away.—Dr. Hope said that the cause of death was syncope. The brain was congested, but he did not think that had anything to do with death. The body was greatly emaciated. The fall might have accelerated death.—A verdict of natural death was returned.

FOUND IN BLACKHEATH TUNNEL.—A man was found on the body of a female child, unknown.—On Wednesday morning a gang of platelayers entered the Blackheath tunnel on the North Kent Railway, and about seventy yards in the tunnel from the

aged American lady, who, with much hesitation said she hardly knew what to ask for, but if she was in her own country she would apply that her husband might be taken into custody for attempting to murder her.—Mr. Fenwick asked when her husband made the last attempt.—Applicant replied that he was always at it.—Mr. Fenwick: Do confine yourself to the question, madam.—Applicant: Yes, I will, but I am so nervous. He commenced about the rent. Then he said he would smash my piano, for one thing.—Mr. Fenwick: But that is doing nothing to you.—Applicant: He didn't dare—(laughter)—but he would murder me.—Mr. Fenwick: But has he assaulted you?—The applicant hesitated, but ultimately said her husband struck her on Friday night. He had sold up her business in America and brought her here, but it was her reputation she thought of as much as anything.—Mr. Fenwick: Stand down, madam. I will order an officer to make inquiries.—The applicant expressed her thanks, and left the court, still complaining of her husband.

THE COOK AND HER LOVER.—George Shredick, 29, a well-dressed man, was charged with attempting to commit suicide by throwing himself into the River Thames on Thursday.—It appeared from the evidence of a sub-inspector of the Thames police that shortly after eight o'clock on the morning of the 31st ult., whilst in the police galley of London Bridge, he heard cries from the Surrey side, and upon rowing to the spot he saw the prisoner struggling in the water, and being partially held up by a boathook. With some difficulty witness succeeded in getting him into the police boat, and after rowing him ashore witness took him to Guy's Hospital, where he remained until that morning.—Mr. Slade remanded the prisoner.

A MARRIED WOMAN AND HER LOVER.—Richard Crook, 29, a well-dressed man, was charged with attempting to commit suicide by throwing himself into the River Thames on Thursday.—It appeared from the evidence of a sub-inspector of the Thames police that shortly after eight o'clock on the morning of the 31st ult., whilst in the police galley of London Bridge, he heard cries from the Surrey side, and upon rowing to the spot he saw the prisoner struggling in the water, and being partially held up by a boathook. With some difficulty witness succeeded in getting him into the police boat, and after rowing him ashore witness took him to Guy's Hospital, where he remained until that morning.—Mr. Slade remanded the prisoner.

KILLED BY A BREWER'S DRAY.—An inquest was held concerning the death of Henry Popham, 3, Christiana Popham deposed that the deceased was her nephew. On Thursday evening last the deceased threw a stone into the road and ran after it. A brewer's dray came along and the deceased was knocked down by one of the horses and the wheel of the dray passed over him. Witness screamed, and the deceased was picked up and taken in doors, when it was found that he was dead.—By the Coroner: At seven o'clock she placed the child by her left side, and when she found it dead it was in the same position.—Mr. Denning, surgeon, said there were marks to see if the child had been pressed upon, and the death was due to suffocation.—The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

JOSPEH ANDREWS, 61, a labourer, late of Cambridge-place, Paddington, was said to have been of temperate habits, and while walking along Earl-street, Edgware-road, was seen to stagger. He fell on some sharp spikes outside a shop window, and was taken to St. Mary's Hospital, where he died. It was said, to delirium tremens, following loss of blood.—Verdict, accidental death.

JAMES WHITNEY, 69, a pianoforte maker, late of Mansfield-road, Kentish Town, in consequence of an attack of paralysis at Christmas he had since been in a paralytic state, and was found in a lavatory with his throat cut. Suicide whilst of unsound mind was the verdict of the jury.

JAMES MCKENZIE, 55, wife of a dock labourer, of Olive-street, Bromley, was taken ill after eating hot cross buns, and died in the sick asylum from acute pneumonia.—Verdict accordingly, the coroner remarking that it was not the hot cross buns.

HARRIET THOMPSON, 18, a maid, late of Elm-street, Woolwich, an old woman, fell in the garden, striking her head against a clothes prop, and sustained injuries of which she subsequently died.—A verdict of accidental death was returned.

JAMES POWELL, 21, son of a labourer, of Havelock-road, Hammersmith. The child

was caught hold of the handle of a saucepan of boiling soup and upset it, getting dreadfully injured. The child afterwards died in the West London Hospital.—Verdict, accidental death.

CHARLTON ENTRANCE, one of them, named Pilgrim, found the body of the deceased wrapped in a petticoat and brown paper, tied with string, and lying so near the rail that he was certain it could not have been thrown from a passing train. He had worked in the tunnel twenty-six years, and that was not the first parcel he had found there.—Dr. Grant, who made a post mortem examination, said the child had had a separate existence, and the cause of death was suffocation.—The jury returned an open verdict.

The following inquests were also held by coroners in the various metropolitan districts:

CHARLES JOHN BLOXH, late master of the barge Avern, was knocked overboard by the tides on March 2nd when his craft accidentally struck a steamer at anchor, and the body had only just been recovered off London Yard Wharf, Poplar.—Verdict, accidental death.

WILLIAM SAYERS, 18, a stonemason, late of Frances-street, Hammersmith, and employed in some stables in Belsize-street, Marylebone. On bank holiday he was cleaning panel work on a ladder when he suddenly fell to the ground, alighting on the back of his head, and subsequently dying at the Middlesex Hospital.—Verdict, accidental death.

JOSPEH ANDREWS, 61, labourer, late of Cambridge-place, Paddington, was said to have been of temperate habits, and while walking along Earl-street, Edgware-road, was seen to stagger. He fell on some sharp spikes outside a shop window, and was taken to St. Mary's Hospital, where he died. It was said, to delirium tremens, following loss of blood.—Verdict, accidental death.

JAMES WHITNEY, 69, a pianoforte maker, late of Mansfield-road, Kentish Town, in consequence of an attack of paralysis at Christmas he had since been in a paralytic state, and was found in a lavatory with his throat cut. Suicide whilst of unsound mind was the verdict of the jury.

JAMES MCKENZIE, 55, wife of a dock labourer, of Olive-street, Bromley, was taken ill after eating hot cross buns, and died in the sick asylum from acute pneumonia.—Verdict accordingly, the coroner remarking that it was not the hot cross buns.

HARRIET THOMPSON, 18, a maid, late of Elm-street, Woolwich, an old woman, fell in the garden, striking her head against a clothes prop, and sustained injuries of which she subsequently died.—A verdict of accidental death was returned.

JAMES POWELL, 21, son of a labourer, of Havelock-road, Hammersmith. The child was caught hold of the handle of a saucepan of boiling soup and upset it, getting dreadfully injured. The child afterwards died in the West London Hospital.—Verdict, accidental death.

A return was issued showing the number of persons charged at Lambeth Police Court during last year was 8,807, exclusive of summonses.

The experimental cruise of the new fast gunboat Boreas, belonging to the New Australian Squadron, has brought to light a somewhat serious defect in her port shaft. The officers from the Admiralty and Sheerness Dockyard have been engaged in making a minute examination of the under-water fittings, and it has been discovered that the unsatisfactory working of the shafts is due to the excessive wearing down of the bearings of the steam tube and bracket. The shaft bearings will have to be relined, and the making good of the defects will take a fortnight.

SIX WEEKS IN A BOX.—An inquiry was held respecting the death of the nearly-boneless child of Elizabeth Flack, a domestic servant. The latter has been arrested, but while in delicate health is at present an inmate of the Islington Workhouse Infirmary.—Emma Halliday, landlady at 2, Liverpool-street, stated that Elizabeth Flack, aged 22

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS—Monday.

The NEWFOUNDLAND QUESTION. On the re-assembling of the House after the Easter recess, Mr. W. H. Smith, replying to Mr. Morton, said that in connection with the Newfoundland Question, the government had given no communication from the French government with regard to our occupation of Newfoundland.

## THE MANIPUR DISASTER.

Sir J. FERGUSON, in answer to Sir G. Campbell, explained the circumstances under which the affair at Manipur had arisen, and that active measures had been taken to restore order and to place the Government in secure footing.

## CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES.

The House went into committee of supply on the Civil Service Estimates. On the first vote for the royal palaces and the borough House, various reductions were made in respect of the uselessness of Hampton Palace and the occupation of Palace, Crimson House, and Bushey House; but the motions were defeated and the agreed to. Numerous reductions were made on the vote for the royal parks and pleasure gardens as protests against the exclusion of the public from Hampton Park, against the people of the country being made to pay for the maintenance of the London parks, and against the high scale on which several officials connected with Rich- and Park were paid. The vote was ultimately agreed to, as, after long discussions, the votes for the Houses of Parliament, the extension of the Admiralty, for county buildings and metropolitan police works, the extension of the Science and Art buildings, diplomatic and consular buildings, in all nine votes were obtained.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS—Tuesday.

INLAND PARCELS. The POSTMASTER-GENERAL, replying to Mr. Watt, stated that he had obtained the assent of the Treasury to a scheme for the registration of inland parcels, and to the granting of compensation for loss or damage in respect of registered packets. The scheme would come into operation on the 1st of June.

## SAVINGS BANK BILL.

On the report stage of this bill, a few amendments were made, and the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, while opposing one to raise the limit of deposits in any one year from £20 to £50, "the total amount that might tend to the credit of a depositor from £10 to £50, undertook to consider whether an amendment could not be inserted in the Bill of Lords to meet the case of depositors who had withdrawn money, and who, if they were not allowed to make further deposits during the year." The bill was read a third time.

## THE PUBLIC HEALTH LAW.

Mr. Ritchie had two bills upon the orders, one for amending the Public Health Law of the metropolis, and the other for consolidating it. In moving the second reading of the former, he explained that it would greatly strengthen the law, and extend the definition of a nuisance. Powers would be given to any person to secure the summary abatement of a nuisance, and the duty would be imposed on the county council to make bye-laws as to the cleaning of the streets and the abatement of nuisances. The sanitary authorities would be empowered to deal with tonnage trades and the question of smoke. Householders would be required, under a penalty, to keep the footpath in front of their houses clear, and the local authority would be liable to a penalty if they failed to cleanse and sweep the streets. Sanitary authorities would have power to declare such houses as had no proper supply unfit for human habitation. The bill was favourably criticised by Mr. Mr. Pickersgill, and other members, was read a second time, as was also the Abolition Bill. Both bills were referred to the Standing Committee on Law.

## MERCHANDISE MARKS BILL.

This bill was read a third time. Mr. JACK brought in a bill, which was read a first, to make temporary provision for the needs of the Middlesex Registry, and the bill was suspended.

## RATING OF MACHINERY.

The Rating of Machinery Bill was read a second time, in the absence of any member of the Government; and all the other orders of the day being postponed, the House adjourned, amid laughter, five minutes after sitting had been resumed.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS—Wednesday.

## THE HARES BILL.

In the House of Commons, Colonel DAWNEY moved the second reading of the bill providing a close time for hares, which it leaves to be fixed in the various counties by the county councils. The bill makes it penal to kill a hare during the close time. He stated that many parts of the country hares were almost extinct, and though there had been a great increase in the importation of foreign hares, yet since the passing of the Ground Game Act in 1839 there had been a great increase of English hares in the market. Mr. HARCETT, seconded by Mr. Conn, moved a rejection of the bill. Sir W. H. HARCONAR proposed it, contending that it deprived the farmer of the inalienable right which Parliament had given him in 1836, to kill hares for the protection of his crops; that the fixing up of the county councils with an extension of the Game Law would make the uncials unpopular; that it was not the fact that hares were becoming extinct; and that was an insincere protest to say that the game-preserving one. Mr. SROOKERSON personally supported the bill, but intimated that the question was open. Sir H. J. GARNER also supported the bill on the ground that the miners generally were in favour of it. On the second reading was carried by 102 against 112, and the bill was read a second time.

## RELIGIOUS EQUALITY BILL.

Mr. CONYARE moved the second reading of his bill for removing certain grievances of nonconformists in connection with marriages and burials. Mr. TALBOT moved its rejection. The Home SECRETARY also opposed the bill, the debate on which was not ended when the hour for suspending it arrived.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS—Thursday.

## ELECTRIC LIGHTING.

Mr. HICKS-BROWN, answering Mr. S. LEWIS, said there was no intention to grant a general provisional order under the Electric Lighting Acts in any district in London where there are already two electric lighting companies empowered by provisional orders to supply electricity, unless there were strong reasons to suppose that one of the two companies would be unable to exercise their powers within a reasonable time.

## LABOUR QUESTIONS.

Mr. ELLIOTT LEES asked what legislative action had yet been taken by any foreign Government to carry out any of the recommendations of the Berlin Conference upon labour questions. Mr. W. H. SMITH replied that the information asked for by the hon. member was still in course of collection. He was not in a position, therefore, to give particulars. He had asked the question to be repeated in a fortnight's time, when he hoped to have got the information.

## THE LABOUR COMMISSION.

Mr. W. H. SMITH, in reply to Mr. Justin, said he was sorry that he was not able to day to state the names of the members of the royal commission. He was not certain of being able to give them to-morrow, as the instructions from the Queen had not been received. He thought that at the latest he would be able to make a statement on Monday.

Mr. CARTERON said when the new silver coins with their values denoted on them would be issued? Mr. GOSCHEN explained that a committee was now considering the whole subject of the design of coins, consisting of Sir J. Lubbock, Sir F. Leighton, the Deputy Master of the Mint, the Deputy Governor of the Bank of England, and two other gentlemen. These gentlemen had kindly undertaken to look into the whole subject.

## OPIUM CONSUMPTION.

Sir J. FRAZERSON, replying to Mr. S. SMITH said, the consumption of opium in Madras and Bombay for 1880 cannot be given. In 1880-90 it was 1,500 chests. Excluding Madras and Bombay, the opium consumption of British India was for 1880-81, 5,600 chests, for 1880-90, 4,800 chests. Of these total, the consumption in Lower Burmah was for 1880-81, 813 chests, for 1880-90, 794 chests. The opium consumption of Upper Burmah is not known.

## THE AFRICAN COMMISSIONERS.

Sir G. CAMPBELL asked whether the commissioners just appointed for West Africa, East Africa, and Northern Zambesi were to be royal commissioners, independent of the Niger, East Africa, and African Lakes Company, and exercising jurisdiction and supervision on behalf of her Majesty, as distinguished from that vested in the companies. Proceeding, Mr. SMITH was not prepared to discuss that decision when the matter arises. Proceeding, Mr. SMITH said the parties were married in 1840, the maiden name of the respondent being Ellen O'DAY O'GRADY. After their marriage they lived in Dublin, Cahir, and other places, and they had twelve children, many of whom were still living. In January, 1890, the petitioner was deserted by his wife, who went to live with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. KELLY, 4, Longwood Avenue. On March 12th and on several subsequent days he called. At first he was told that the respondent was out, and then he was informed that she had left there. When he asked where she had gone they said they did not know. He asked if he wrote a letter to her at that address what would be done with it, and a young lady in the house replied, "It would be opened and read, and might be afterwards burned." (Laughter.) He believed Mrs. HAYNES was still living at Longwood Avenue, and he asked that the service of the citation by registered letter be deemed sufficient. —Judge WARREN said he would order that the citation be sent by registered letter to Mrs. HAYNES, directed to her care of Mrs. KELLY. —Mr. HORACE SMITH, at North London Police Court, took two separate opportunities of remarking on the relationship between husband and wife. In the first case, a young man said his wife refused to live with him because he was a testotter. —Mr. HORACE SMITH replied that, in the absence of any other reason, the wife had no more right to desert her husband than had the husband to desert her. —In another case, Mr. YOUNG, solicitor, set up as a defence to an assault that the man asked a woman with whom he had been living to resume cohabitation, and she refused. But, said Mr. HORACE SMITH, if a man may not do as he pleases with his wife, surely this man has no control over this woman.

## ALLEGED SACRILEGE AT EARL GRANVILLE'S GRAVE.

With regard to a report, published a few days ago, that at the funeral of the late Earl Granville, one of the other coffins was tampered with, the Press Association gives the following version of the occurrence:—"After the funeral rites had terminated a number of persons crowded into the vault to take a last look at the coffin. They were at once requested to withdraw and did so. It was afterwards found that, probably owing to some persons knocking against it, a slight injury had been done to one of the coffins resting on the floor of the vault, but this was of the most trifling description, and was purely accidental. The vault, after the first moment of confusion, was carefully guarded against intrusion. The facts mentioned would have required no notice but for the exaggerated stories which rapidly got into circulation in the district."

## HUSBAND AND WIFE.

In the Probate and Matrimonial Court, Dublin, before Judge WARREN, in the matter of a petition by James HAYNES, an old man aged seventy, for restitution of conjugal rights. Mr. SMITH applied for an order to substitute the service of a personal citation upon Mr. HAYNES. —Judge WARREN: What is the use of moving a motion of that kind after the decision of the Appeal Court of England? —Mr. SMITH: We are determined to proceed in any case, and we will consider that decision afterwards. —Judge WARREN: The decision of the Court of Appeal in England has turned the issuing of orders of this kind into a farce. —Mr. SMITH: We shall be prepared to discuss that decision when the matter arises. Proceeding, Mr. SMITH said the parties were married in 1840, the maiden name of the respondent being Ellen O'DAY O'GRADY. After their marriage they lived in Dublin, Cahir, and other places, and they had twelve children, many of whom were still living. In January, 1890, the petitioner was deserted by his wife, who went to live with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. KELLY, 4, Longwood Avenue. On March 12th and on several subsequent days he called. At first he was told that the respondent was out, and then he was informed that she had left there. When he asked where she had gone they said they did not know. He asked if he wrote a letter to her at that address what would be done with it, and a young lady in the house replied, "It would be opened and read, and might be afterwards burned." (Laughter.) He believed Mrs. HAYNES was still living at Longwood Avenue, and he asked that the service of the citation by registered letter be deemed sufficient. —Judge WARREN said he would order that the citation be sent by registered letter to Mrs. HAYNES, directed to her care of Mrs. KELLY. —Mr. HORACE SMITH, at North London Police Court, took two separate opportunities of remarking on the relationship between husband and wife. In the first case, a young man said his wife refused to live with him because he was a testotter. —Mr. HORACE SMITH replied that, in the absence of any other reason, the wife had no more right to desert her husband than had the husband to desert her. —In another case, Mr. YOUNG, solicitor, set up as a defence to an assault that the man asked a woman with whom he had been living to resume cohabitation, and she refused. But, said Mr. HORACE SMITH, if a man may not do as he pleases with his wife, surely this man has no control over this woman.

## THE ACTRESS AND HER APARTMENTS.

At the Swansea Police Court, Miss ADA BRANDON, a member of Mr. WYNNE MILLER's "The World" company, performing at the New Theatre, stepped into the witness-box and asked the stipendiary if he could give her assistance in the recovery of her luggage, which had been detained by Mr. TRUSCOTT. She said she had, by letter, engaged a sitting-room and bed-room at Truscott's, but one of them was found to be no bigger than a cupboard. Mr. TRUSCOTT refused to part with her luggage until she paid the full week's rent. The stipendiary said the applicant must pay the rent, but could then proceed in the county court —in reply to whether the young lady could have the assistance of a policeman to recover her luggage, the stipendiary referred her to the head constable. —The motion was then agreed to.

## THE LAND PURCHASE BILL.

On the report of a resolution authorising certain advances under the Purchase of Land and Congested Districts (Ireland) Bill, Mr. H. FOWLER moved the substitution of the words "out of money to be provided by the Government" for "out of the Consolidated Fund," and stated that his object in doing so was to provide that the salaries of the land commissioners should be paid out of the estimates submitted to Parliament instead of out of the Consolidated Fund. —Mr. A. J. BALFOUR contended that the salaries of the new commissioners should, like those of other judges, be thrown upon the Consolidated Fund. The principle upon which salaries were placed upon the Consolidated Fund was that the voting of salaries by the House practically left the officials so paid to the control of majorities swayed by party influences, which was quite inapplicable to these commissioners, who would have to deal with the very questions upon which the Irish controversy turned, and about which the bitterest controversy raged.

Mr. T. H. HEALY supported the amendment. —Mr. T. W. RUSSELL declared that the proposal of the Government was ridiculous and would be resented in Ulster. —Mr. J. MONZER maintained that the proposal would be a mischievous blow to one of the soundest constitutional principles that had hitherto guided Parliament. —After some discussion, the House divided, and the numbers were: —For the amendment, 112; against, 180. —Mr. T. HEALY moved an amendment limiting the proposal of the Government to the Land Purchase Commissioners. —Mr. A. J. BALFOUR stated that the resolution had been drawn in the usual form that the usage of the House prescribed; there had been a resolution for each bill. —The amendment was negatived by 131 against 81. —Eventually the resolution was carried by 175 against 116. —The resolution of a resolution authorising the salaries, remuneration, and expenses of the congested districts board was also carried. —The House then went into committee on the bill. —Mr. E. HOBSON moved to omit the first subsection, authorising the issue of guaranteed land stock for the purchase of land; but after discussion he withdrew his amendment. —The House adjourned at 12.15.

## A SINGULAR APPLICATION.

The Lambeth churchwardens and overseers were surprised to receive applications from the Rev. Walter Hobbs and Mr. Knight, asking that their ratings might be increased. It turned out that one gentleman, Mr. Hobbs, desired to sustain his qualification for the office of guardian, and the other, Mr. Knight, for the office of vestryman. —After some discussion, Mr. Knight's rating was increased to £42, and the board's surveyor (Mr. Barker) was instructed to report to the board upon Mr. Hobbs's case.

The two foreigners—Sigismund Kauffman, of Moreton-road, Islington, and Ferdinand Kamens, of New North-road, Hoxton—charged with having assaulted Harry Westerby during a disturbance inside "The Cosmopolitan Club," Charles-square, Hoxton, early in the morning of the 31st ult., reappeared, on remand, at the Worship-street Police Court, and as the evidence was insufficient to sustain a conviction, they were discharged. Louis Gruner, the proprietor, of the club, who was summoned for selling intoxicating liquors to the parties without being licensed to do so, was fined £50, or a month's hard labour in the last three centuaries.

A preliminary glance at the picture galleries of the Royal Naval Exhibition, Chelsea, indicates pretty conclusively that under the superintendence of the president of this section, Admiral Sir Edward Ingfield, and the honorary secretary, Major Edge, there will be no failure in this interesting department. The pictures will be displayed in three galleries, named respectively the Blake, Benbow, and Nelson Rooms. This arrangement illustrates the leading idea of Great Britain's dominion of the seas for the last three centuries.

## ARMY STATIONS FOR APRIL.

(From the Army and Navy Gazette.) (When two places are mentioned, the last-named is that in which the depot is situated.)

1st East Lancashire, 20th

2nd Royal Fusiliers, 2nd

2nd Dragoon Guards, 2nd

2nd Royal Dragoon Guards, 2nd

2nd Royal Horse Guards, 2nd

2nd Royal Dragoon Guards, 2nd

2nd

## "THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

Seventy-two inquests were held last week in the metropolis.

There were 2,381 births and 1,720 deaths registered in London last week.

No less than seven deaths in the metropolis last week were attributed to influenza.

Sixty-nine deaths in London last week were attributable to accident or negligence.

There were 450 death from disease of the respiratory organs last week in the metropolis.

"General" Booth has so far recovered as to be able to leave his bed for a little time.

The parks and public gardens of Berlin last year used 70,000 potted plants for decorations.

Just over 50,000 persons—to be exact, 51,145—visited the South Kensington Museum last week.

The Registrar-general informs us that fourteen infants under a year old were suffocated in bed in London last week.

Last week in a parish in Ross-shire a Senior Wrangler of Cambridge might have been saving his father to plough hiscroft.

In a fire which broke out in a wooden building at Rochester, Pennsylvania, four members of an Italian family perished. Six others are missing.

Why (asks a London correspondent) does no one produce Lord Tennyson's "Becket" which was specially written for stage representation?

The exodus of Jews from Odessa and other places in South Russia still continues. Fifteen hundred left last week for England and America.

A Dublin correspondent states that the threatened petition against the return of Mr Alderman Collyer, M.P. for North Sligo, will not be proceeded with.

The "Glasgow Times" announces that the greater portion of the town of Wunstorf has been burned, and that there is much sickness amongst the troops stationed there.

Mr. J. C. Dimondale presided on Tuesday evening over the anniversary festival of the London Orphan Asylum, when £4,250 was contributed to the funds of the charity.

A mail bag despatched from London, containing valuable securities, has been missing since Sunday, and is supposed to have been stolen while being conveyed to Boulogne from Calais.

Samuel Mason, who was recently committed for trial on the charge of wilfully murdering his wife at Godmanchester, by striking her with a cricket bat, has died in Cambridge Prison hospital.

A Goolee and merchant named Hebbden and his son-in-law have been drowned at Goolee by the upsetting of a boat, in which they had gone to alter the moorings of a keel laden with sand.

The Secretary of War has issued an order directing that in future no candidate for admission to the Army Medical Service shall be allowed to compete on more than two occasions.

The Prussian Pioneers are about to build the longest bridge in the world. It will be all of wood, and will be situated on the estate of Prince Radziwill, in East Prussia. Its length will be exactly a German mile—that is, four and three-fifths English miles.

Mr. William Burton, private secretary to Mr. Nesfield, the Duke of Rutland's Derbyshire steward, who has been suffering from a lingering illness, shot himself the other day. He held the office of Conservative registration agent to the High Peak Division.

A North Kensington chemist has assured a coroner's jury that one of his customers spends £100 a week on laudanum to drink, and that another customer takes as much as two ounces of the drug at a sitting. The habit, he says, is a very common one.

The value has been sworn at £185,15s. of the personal estate of the late Sir C. and Francis Burton, the explorer, K.C.M.G., F.R.G.S., British consul in Trieste, who died in November last, and of whose wife the sole executrix is his wife, Dame Isabel Burton.

The "Munchener Algemeine Zeitung," one of Prince Bismarck's recognised press mouthpieces, has been placed in the reptile-house at the Zoological Gardens. It is very brilliantly coloured with red, yellow, and black stripes; but instead of being proud of its dress the snake persists in concealing itself beneath a large piece of cork in its cage.

A very interesting snake—the American coral snake—has been placed in the reptile-house at the Zoological Gardens. It is very brilliantly coloured with red, yellow, and black stripes; but instead of being proud of its dress the snake persists in concealing itself beneath a large piece of cork in its cage.

Like most landlords, Sir John Kinloch had given no heed to the possibilities of petite farming, but the master was brought before him, he looked about his estate and found a number of plots that could be let as small holdings. He took to the idea, and has discovered that it is easy.

Mr. Penrose Fitzgerald, member for Cambridge, says there is no probability of passing this session a bill re-pealing university jurisdiction. He maintains that the townspeople are quite as much at home as the university in keeping the streets decent and respectable. He awaits the decision of the local authorities.

At the Central Criminal Court, Walter Beeson, 30, labourer, was condemned to breaking and entering the dwelling-house of George Stewart, and was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour. James Samuels, 24, cook, pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to twenty months' hard labour for a similar offence in Bishopsgate.

"Gas lighting" was the cause of an outbreak of fire on Tuesday evening, at 135, King's-road, Chelsea, occupied by Mr. W. Burnard, draper. The shop and contents were virtually burnt out, and the rest of the building consisting of tenanted rooms, sustained damage by fire, heat, smoke, and water.

William John Purvis Hodgson, a carpenter, and Henry William Wimberly, a turner, were charged at the West End Court last week with being concerned in causing the death of John Purvis Hodgson, the father of the last-named prisoner, during a fair in a house in the Braemar-road. The prisoners were remanded, pending an inquiry on the body.

Owing to the extended scope of the inquiry into the merits of the London Water Bill now before Parliament, the committee have altered their decision to be represented as one body before the committee, and have decided to appear each upon its own petition to defend its interests as a representative and distinct company. The effect of this is that it will be considerably prolonged the inquiry.

Before Mr. Justice Lawrence, in the Old Bailey, Mr. Montague Lush applied for a writ of habeas corpus for an injunction to restrain Mr. G. G. Gorder and Craven from selling or recovering any part of the £100,000 given by Mr. A. A. Hopkins, the arbitrator, in entering judgment. The application was granted. Notice of motion has now been given on behalf of Mr. G. G. Gorder to have the award, or to have it set aside, or to have it referred to an arbitrator for reconsideration.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer Tuesday received a deputation of Brewers, a tea and aristocratic gathering. The brewer, who came, was handsomely attired in a bridal dress of richly white duchess satin, bordered with a sprig of daffodil, and a garland of flowers mentioned in the "Wedding Song" given by Mr. A. A. Hopkins, the arbitrator, in entering judgment. The application was granted. Notice of motion has now been given on behalf of Mr. G. G. Gorder to have the award, or to have it set aside, or to have it referred to an arbitrator for reconsideration.

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in the amount of spirits consumed tended to show that they had not been overtaxed.

A rose by any other name has just as many thorns.

Mr. Gladstone has been staying a day or two at Brighton.

Off the coast of Scotland the severest gale of the season was experienced a few days ago.

The Midland Railway Company have subscribed £50,000 towards the fund for rebuilding the Derby Infirmary.

The Duke of Devonshire has contributed £500 to the fund for a new church to be built at Eastbourne.

"General" Booth has purchased, through Mr. Alfred Baker, about eight hundred acres of agricultural land in Essex for the purposes of his scheme.

The Arizona Legislature has passed a bill exempting from taxation for ten years all sugar-beet factories built in the territory within one year.

Sylvanus R. Cooper, of Decatur, Ill., proposed marriage to a woman to whom he had never been introduced, and became insane when he was refused.

The Duke of Fife has sold his beautiful estate of Brae, near Banff, to Mr. Leslie, who had for many years been the tenant there. It includes about forty small holdings.

A determined opposition is springing up in the City to the action of the London County Council in endeavouring materially to increase the existing assessments on City property.

At the Arundel Petty Sessions, a medical assistant named Roche was fined £3 and 42s. 6d. costs for signing his name to a certificate of death as "L.R.C.S., Edin.," he having no qualification for such a title.

Men, for Ladies: In Paris every flower and foliage possible to think of is useful for hat and bonnet trimming, violets and lilacs, either alone or mixed with other blossoms, being perhaps the most fashionable.

A number of large specimens of the Cape clawed frog have just been placed in the reptile house at the Zoo. They are remarkable among frogs in living entirely in the water, which they never voluntarily leave.

An earthquake shock has been felt in Syria and the other Cyclades Islands. Other shocks, less violent in character, were noticed in other parts of Greece. No accidents are reported.

Owing to the unsatisfactory operation of the Welsh Sunday Closing Act in Glamorganshire, the county council at Cardiff appointed a committee to see what could be done to effect a stricter observance of its provisions.

Another exhibition of pictures is to be held this year in the Morley Memorial Hall, Southwark, in May. A large number of works have been promised, and it is hoped some member of the Royal family will open the collection.

The lists of the five Chancery judges for the Welsh Sunday Closing Act in Glamorganshire, the county council at Cardiff appointed a committee to see what could be done to effect a stricter observance of its provisions.

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The Eastbourne corporation commenced last Monday with a new bor-borough police force, and ceased to depend on the county of Sussex for its police. At a sitting of the bench the six county magistrates expressed regret at the change, but they intimated that they would co-operate with the new borough force.

The Board of Trade returns for March show imports a decrease £387,275, and exports an increase of £1,595,353. For the three months ended the same date, the imports show a decrease of £3,021,221 and the exports a decrease of £750,088 compared with the corresponding period of last year.

There is no foundation for the statement that the Empress Frederick has, during her visit to this country, been active in endeavouring to induce British artists to send their works to the International Art Exhibition at Berlin.

A body of Polish workmen were engaged in laying a telegraph cable at Hof, in Bavaria, when they were attacked by a number of Bavarian and Saxon workmen, who had applied in vain for employment in connection with the same work. Twenty-five men were injured.

Mrs. Zook, of Kansas City—the home of strong-minded femininity—left £20,000 to distant relatives, and only £1 to her husband.

Accompanying Mr. Zook's legacy was a request that he would not make a fool of himself by spending it recklessly.

Messrs. Baker and Sons, of Queen Victoria-street, disposed by public auction, by order of the executors of the late Mr. E. Davies, J.P., of the first portion of the Earlefield estate, for sale held land adjoining Wandsworth Common. The sale realised £48,500 for four acres.

Boston women have been discussing the question "How to Express the Feelings with Apparent Unconsciousness of the Physical Agents." Evidently the dames of culture in Boston are seeking some improvement in the feminine system of giving a man "a piece of her mind." It is a big want.

Here is a delightful incident from the shores of the Mediterranean:—The editors of the "Lotus," of Nice, having struck through a misunderstanding, the management find itself under the regrettable necessity of interrupting the publication for a week.

An American paper tells of a divorcee "will two girls, who married a widower with two boys, and had a second family by her new husband." One day when there was a storm in the nursery, the lady remonstrated with her husband, "It's only my children and your children." The husband was so angry that he ran into a brick wall with such a clatter and a "Ugh!" that we thought he must at least have broken a few ribs. But, when we alighted and asked him if he was hurt, he answered with ineffable scorn, "Hurt? No, of course not!" We quite offended him, bless you.

At the Durham Quarter Sessions, John Good, secretary to the Baltic Malaria Union and Friendly Society at Sunderland, was indicted for embezzling over £200 from the funds of the society. It was stated that the prisoner had established himself in a dock labourer's cabin from Adam-street, with a woman he had married.

A meeting organised by the Wine and Spirit Association was held at the Cannon-street Hotel, to protest against the continuance of the increased imposts on alcoholic liquors.

Major Parkington presided, and, on the motion of Mr. Seagar Hunt, M.P., a resolution was passed protesting strongly against the continuance of the extra duty of sixpence per gallon on spirits imposed last year.

It is amusing, says "Cyclone," to notice in what a matter-of-fact manner some people take a cropper. The other day was a man run into a brick wall with such a clatter and a "Ugh!" that we thought he must at least have broken a few ribs. But, when we alighted and asked him if he was hurt, he answered with ineffable scorn, "Hurt? No, of course not!" We quite offended him, bless you.

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At the Grimsby Town Council have unanimously resolved to petition Parliament in favour of the Manchester, Shire, and Lincolnshire Company's Bill for the new route to London. It was stated that, whereas this company had practically made Grimsby, they only got two-thirds of the fish traffic, and in consequence of the heavy railway charges by other companies, a large proportion of the fish was taken direct to London by water.

The Duke of Cambridge was the principal guest at the Easter banquet at the Mansion House. He expressed his high appreciation of what he saw of the Volunteer at Dover, and made some allusion to his inspections during his recent tour in the Mediterranean. In respect to the new state of things concerning Christ's Hospital, he had consented still to act as president, and he would endeavour loyally to carry out the changes that had been decided upon.

Now has been received at the India Office that the Lieutenant-Colonel, who was injured in that building in Upper Tigris, is Lieutenant L. A. Forbes, of the 2nd Battalion 3rd Dragoons. We are pleased to learn that the Lieutenant-Colonel was not killed, as at first reported.

He was, however, severely wounded in the right arm. Lieutenant Forbes was formerly of the 7th Highlanders, and left that regiment to become an officer of the Bengal Staff Corps of which he is now a prominent member.

Mr. Penrose Fitzgerald, member for Cambridge, says there is no probability of passing this session a bill re-pealing university jurisdiction.

He maintains that the townspeople are quite as much at home as the university in keeping the streets decent and respectable. He awaits the decision of the local authorities.

At the Central Criminal Court, Walter Beeson, 30, labourer, was condemned to breaking and entering the dwelling-house of George Stewart, and was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour.

James Samuels, 24, cook, pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to twenty months' hard labour for a similar offence in Bishopsgate.

"Gas lighting" was the cause of an outbreak of fire on Tuesday evening, at 135, King's-road, Chelsea, occupied by Mr. W. Burnard, draper. The shop and contents were virtually burnt out, and the rest of the building consisting of tenanted rooms, sustained damage by fire, heat, smoke, and water.

William John Purvis Hodgson, a carpenter, and Henry William Wimberly, a turner, were charged at the West End Court last week with being concerned in causing the death of John Purvis Hodgson, the father of the last-named prisoner, during a fair in a house in the Braemar-road. The prisoners were remanded, pending an inquiry on the body.

Owing to the extended scope of the inquiry into the merits of the London Water Bill now before Parliament, the committee have altered their decision to be represented as one body before the committee, and have decided to appear each upon its own petition to defend its interests as a representative and distinct company. The effect of this is that it will be considerably prolonged the inquiry.

Before Mr. Justice Lawrence, in the Old Bailey, Mr. Montague Lush applied for a writ of habeas corpus for an injunction to restrain Mr. G. G. Gorder and Craven from selling or recovering any part of the £100,000 given by Mr. A. A. Hopkins, the arbitrator, in entering judgment. The application was granted. Notice of motion has now been given on behalf of Mr. G. G. Gorder to have the award, or to have it set aside, or to have it referred to an arbitrator for reconsideration.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer Tuesday received a deputation of Brewers, a tea and aristocratic gathering. The brewer, who came, was handsomely attired in a bridal dress of richly white duchess satin, bordered with a sprig of daffodil, and a garland of flowers mentioned in the "Wedding Song" given by Mr. A. A. Hopkins, the arbitrator, in entering judgment. The application was granted. Notice of motion has now been given on behalf of Mr. G. G. Gorder to have the award, or to have it set aside, or to have it referred to an arbitrator for reconsideration.

which numbered upwards of 200, were mostly of a costly description.

Somebody says that a hen is just like the British Empire—her son never sets.

Like the best politician, the best jockey is the one that has the strongest pull.

Women may never be elected to Parliament, but she will always be speaker of the house.

Many insurance men complain that the only illness which attacks annuitants is the long-lover complaint.

The man who pleads that working between meals is unhealthy for him must be given up as a bad case.

An increase in the total assessment of £100,000 is shown by the recent quinquennial valuation.

It is announced that Mr. Henry Tait, of the Scotch Railway Servants' Society, has been elected to the seat on the Labour Commission.

The Countess Edla, the widow of the late King-Consort of Portugal, has decided to sell her husband's magnificent collection of pictures.

The Duke of Devonshire has been staying a day or two at Brighton.

Off the coast of Scotland the severest gale of the season was experienced a few days ago.

The Midland Railway Company have subscribed £50,000 towards the fund for rebuilding the Derby Infirmary.

The Duke of Devonshire has contributed £500 to the fund for a new church to be built at Eastbourne.

"General" Booth has purchased, through Mr. Alfred Baker, about eight hundred acres of agricultural land in Essex for the purposes of his scheme.

## TURF, FIELD, AND RIVER

By LARRY LYNX.

The first important item of racing gossip that cropped up during the past week concerned the double event last year it was thought by some that Hiatus, a son of Buchanan, and like his sire a grey would, as he was introduced into the market at the eleventh hour, bring off a similar cup to that of R've de'Ors. Whilst Lord George and L'Abbesse de Jouarre were firm in their command of public favour to the last, Tittle Tattle roared. The start was nineteen minutes late, owing chiefly to the fractiousness of Hiatus, Le Nord, and Tittle Tattle. Le Nord, who ran a great deal better than his trial front, but when fairly settled down the leaders were Sabrina, Hiatus, Bullion, Red Eagle, Dorcas, Workington, Le Nord, L'Abbesse de Jouarre, whilst Father Confessor and R've de'Or were whippers-in. At the top of the hill it was a case of Sabrina, Hiatus, Bullion, Workington, Dorcas, Red Eagle, Tittle Tattle, Lord George, L'Abbesse de Jouarre, Vasistas, and Nunthorpe. Entering the straight Sabrina was done with, and on thundered Bullion and Workington stride by stride from Red Eagle, Le Nord, Lord George, Tittle Tattle, and L'Abbesse de Jouarre. A quarter of a mile from home came the crucial test. Workington drew out with a clear lead of Bullion, Le Nord, Nunthorpe, L'Abbesse de Jouarre, Lord George, Tittle Tattle, and Vasistas. Bullion next challenged Workington, and after L'Abbesse de Jouarre had threatened danger, Nunthorpe dashed through and won easily by three lengths from Bullion, who nearly stoned for the heartbreakings he caused in Goldseeker's year, while a neck separated Bullion from Workington. Dorcas, Vasistas, L'Abbesse de Jouarre all finished among the leading division, but the surprise of the race was afforded by R've de'Or, who last for a long time, finished fourth. The result was a great surprise, as after the money entrusted to L'Abbesse de Jouarre, no sane man expected the victory of her stable companion, Nunthorpe, who, if he improved on his Lincoln running, is nevertheless a very uncertain horse.

Mr. Milner has sustained a severe loss by the death of the great stallion Isomony, who has not long survived his sire Sterling. Foaled in 1873, this superb thoroughbred made a mighty name for himself on the turf although classic honours were not fate to be his lot. He was bred by the Messrs. Graham at the Yardley stud, and as a yearling was sold for 350 guineas to Mr. F. Gritten, and when that gentleman's stud was disposed of in 1883 he was bought by the late Mr. S. W. Crawford for 29,000 guineas. His performances on the turf stamp him as a century horse. His most wonderful handicap performance was winning the Manchester Cup as a 5-year-old in 1880, with 9st. 12lb. up. He won the Cambridgeshire as a 3-year-old, with 7st. 1lb. in the middle, and his victories in the Ascot Cup in 1879 and 1880, and the Goodwood and Doncaster Cups, the Ascot Gold Vase, and the Poor Handicap proved of what grand stud he was made. The best of his illustrious progeny were Satiety, Seabreeze, Riviera, Isobar, Cameronian, Blavatky, Formidable, and Valauris, but he has sired other good horses too numerous to mention here.

The Epsom Spring Meeting opened contrary to expectations, cold, dull, and showery on Tuesday, when the Great Metropolitan Stakes was raced for. Still, that did not deter the Prince of Wales from being present and enjoying himself, as he always appears to do when witnessing the favourite sport of the great people by whom he is so liked. Many superb horses have won the Great Metropolitan in days gone by since the first winner Chamois came sailing home in 1839, notably Virago, that beautiful chestnut daughter of Pyrrhus the first and Virginia, who, as a 3-year-old, with 6st. and 4lb. up, and steered by Tiny Wells, actually won the Meteoropolitan, and the City and Suburban on the same day, a feat never before or since accomplished. Now is it likely to be, since the events have for years been run on different days. Then there were Fandango, Cannibal, St. Albans, Bacchus, The Drummer, Sabinus, Dutch Sailor, Mornington, Hampton, whose names are written on the list of its winners. A field of nine, just six less than Parlington, at last year contested the event, and the Northampton victor Lusignan was backed for the most money. Parlington was not sent to compete for Manton, and is in reserve for other engagements; but his stable companion, Ragimunde, who ran so well behind Silver Star and Barmecide at Kempton, proved an effective substitute. In a well run race, in which Lusignan, always in the van, looked all the winner until crossing the road, when he was done with, Ragimunde shot to the front for the second year in succession landed the popular Duke of Beaufort's colours glorious in this race. Judith, the London rod in pickle, was never really creditable, although she was travelling great guns at the finish, and came in fifth. Two outsiders, Royal Gem and Maypole finished second and third, and infals, who was sent all the way from Malton, fourth. The Duke has won three Great Metropolitans with The Cob in 1887, and Parlington and Ragimunde, who is a son of his graco's old favourite Petronel, the two thousand winner of 1889, who was unfortunate in being foaled in the same year as those equine giants, Bond and Robert the Devil. His grace does not quite equal the record of Mr. Graham who took the race three years running with The Drummer, Sabinus, and Captivator, in 1883, 1870, and 1871. Young Dick Chaloner, who also steered Parlington last April, made a good race, and he, with the astute old Alec Taylor, were warmly congratulated at this triumph of the Badminton hoops.

The Rejected won the Trial Stakes, but had some difficulty in shaking off Versifer, and had to run the gauntlet of an objection. Versifer, unplaced in the Brocklesby at Lincoln, carried off the Holmwood Two-Year-Old Stakes, being first favourite in a field of a dozen, and Sly Fellow bowled over two better backed in a field of thirteen sprinters in Lady Moutch and Kesthorpe, with Mr. Maples' pair, Scarborough and Clarence resting. Knockaway, an absented rester, in the effects of sore shins, Kingalure applied the winner of the Westminster Cup in Bach, a chestnut daughter of Bartolino and Anthem who, carrying Lord Wellington colours, upset the odds-backed on Tuesday, Chicken Hazard, 10 to 1 chance, backed another race in the Handsetakes, and Red Eagle showed hisiking for ups and downs of Epsom by the style in which he won the Prince of Wales's Stakes.

At times the air bit shrewdly at Epsom in the City and Suburban day, there was plenty of gladsome sunshine to temper the cool that blew over the downy so free. Occasionally the leaden sky threatened rain, just as often the storm clouds'roke up to give place to the golden gleams of Jovis Apollo. Still it was a welcome contrast to the opening day, even if it was not a beautiful spring afternoon as when R've de'Or sailed home last year. There was a noticeable change in the betting before the start, as people tumbled over one another to back Vasistas to such an extent that this disappointing horse actually started first favourite, but, as was seen afterwards, Baron de'Ors' ill-luck clung to him once more.

The attendance was a big one all round, from the Prince of Wales, who, in a brown coat with a bunch of violets as a button like a billycock hat and a white silk muffler round his throat, to say nothing of a big cigar in his mouth, seemed to thoroughly enjoy himself as usual, and the numerous aristocratic patrons of sport do downwards. Last year the Epsom Spring Meeting was held a fortnight later, and the crowd was like that

of a Derby day. Considering chilling blasts, I think the attendance last Wednesday was remarkable. Alec Taylor having brought off the double event last year it was thought by some that Hiatus, a son of Buchanan, and like his sire a grey would, as he was introduced into the market at the eleventh hour, bring off a similar cup to that of R've de'Ors. Whilst Lord George and L'Abbesse de Jouarre were firm in their command of

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The uncertainties of football — and especially of Yorkshire cup-tie football — were again illustrated on Saturday, when the overthrew of the cup-holders, Huddersfield, by Wakefield Trinity, who previous to the first round of the competition had scarcely won a match, but who now contested the final tie with Pontefract. The presence of Pontefract in the final is just as great a surprise, for few people deemed them capable of beating Castleford, who had created astonishment by defeating Halifax, who in turn had most unexpectedly knocked out Bradford, the favourites for the cup at the outset.

My remarks regarding the final tie for the Army Challenge Cup have somewhat hurt the amour propre of the 2nd Scots Guards, which I greatly regret, as, in pointing to the result as a surprise, I had no intention of depreciating their ability. The suggestion that they had only been successful against minor clubs round London is scarcely accurate, for they have played and fairly well held their own against such teams as Caenals, Old Etonians, Marlow and other good clubs, whilst early in the season they met and drew with their antagonists of Easter Monday, the 93rd Highlanders. Still, I would remark, that taken generally the 2nd Scots Guards can scarcely be regarded as of the same class as the Highlanders, and in the Army Cup tie, had goalkeepers been changed there is little doubt but that the winners would have been badly beaten, so great a disparity was there in the actual play of the two teams.

The London Athletic Club's first spring meeting, last Saturday, proved, despite occasional slight showers of rain, an enjoyable affair.

Interest in the big event dwarfed that in the others, but Lord Roslyn won his first race with Odous in the Bletchworth Stakes, and scored again in the Kingwood Stakes with Weathercock. The Rejected won his race, and so did Woodlark, Sea Song, and the Orphan Agnes filly, a handsome youngster, who deserves a name, as she will win again and again.

The opening day of the Sandown Park Meeting was characterised by wretchedly cold weather, and there was little of the promise of spring manifest. The Duke of Beaufort started both Ragimunde and R've de'Or, for the Sandown Handicap, and the latter, after her gallant show at Epsom, was the better fancied of the Manton pair. She, however, appeared to have not recovered from her effects in the City and Suburban and there was little fire or resolution in her gallop. Ragimunde ran well, but could not give the weight to Burnaby, who, stalling off Hounds-ditch's challenge, won by a length.

General Owen Williams who supplied the winner of the Two Year Old Stakes last year with Conifer, again served up the victor in Vanguard, son of Royal Hampton and Carpet Slipper. Lamprey running more generously than at Epsom, and the Ascot Gold Vase, and the Poor Handicap proved of what grand stud he was made. The best of his illustrious progeny were Satiety, Seabreeze, Riviera, Isobar, Cameronian, Blavatky, Formidable, and Valauris, but he has sired other good horses too numerous to mention here.

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The last of the football Internationals, though favourable for England, so far as the main question of winning or losing was concerned, was not without its unsatisfactory features. In the first place, it was unfortunate, seeing that the match was played at Blackburn, that not one of the cupholders was included in the English team. This fact excited the wrath of the Blackburn people to such an extent that very few of them went to the match the next morning when they took the bus to the station. The explanation of the omission of the Rovers is simple enough. Several of their best men are not English, and therefore not eligible.

Two men, however, stand out prominently as fully deserving of a place in a representative English eleven, John Southworth, the Epsom centre-forward, and Bartolino, half-back. Both would probably have been chosen had each been fit and well, and had they complied with the selection committee's requests. Southworth was known not to be thoroughly sound, and there would therefore have been some risk in playing him. So far as Bartolino is concerned, he, in common with the other professional players, agreed to take part in the trial match a week or so ago, was warned that the absence from that match would end his selection for the International contest. He did not respond to the invitation to play in the trial, hence he has been relegated to the bench.

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## DEATH OF MR. BARNUM.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE PEOPLE."

Sir,—Under this heading you have inserted several letters in your valuable paper, all of which I have carefully read and studied, it being a subject of the greatest interest to all, especially to military men. The cause of the scarcity of recruits is without doubt the short-service system, for a man can only expect the prospect of a few years' employment in the Army, and then to be passed off to look after himself, and, naturally, the world's recruit hardly deems this good enough. The War Office knows only too well how difficult it is for ex-soldiers to find employment, even to find work for men of a better education, some of whom I know have been offered employment as railway porters at 18s. a week, and these men are educated and sons of gentlemen. All are classed alike and thought the same of. For my part I was one of the unfortunate ones, and, though I was not being employed at the time, was for months out of work. I tried the police (Metropolitan and City), the Royal Irish Constabulary, added my name to the list at the War Office, which contains already enough materials to last another six years to come; and wherever I presented myself I was told that a man of my bearing must have done something wrong to have taken the shilling. I can hardly tell the hundreds of places I visited to get work of any description, but there were scores of others waiting long before me. I am glad I have something now to do, but that is not willing to help. There is no respect for a soldier, and until there is conscription it will always be thought that a man has when he joins the Army "gone to the dogs;" a most ignorant idea, certainly, but one that is generally expressed. To overcome the difficulty of obtaining recruits, it would help the recruiting sergeant if the terms of service were twelve years with the colours and nine reserve, making twenty-one years in all, at completion of which period a pension should be granted; that no bounties be given (i.e., no deferred pay), it being that small amount, £21, which is a gold mine to many, that makes a man at present leave it; that none under the age of 20 should be enlisted (this would leave a margin for men who presented themselves for enlistment under that age); that a full shilling a day be paid daily to every soldier; and that men of good character, after twenty-one years in, should be allowed to act as household troops of the line for a further period of ten years or less. I have had large experience in recruiting, but do not want to be a dictator, yet think if the authorities asked the opinion of the recruiting staff (not the officer) that they would receive from them the best method of obtaining men and not boys for the Army. A word of advice to soldiers at present serving. If you have a chance of staying on, do so; do not let the deferred pay entice you away; you are better off in the service, even with all its shortcomings, than in civil life. There are thousands of men now who regret having left it, and many men breaking stones at a shilling a square yard unable to obtain anything better. Something must be done to obtain men, not lads, as they enlist now by special permission with 31 in. chest measurement, and between 16 and 17 years of age, and which can be seen at the Tower, Hounds-lane, Aldershot, or any other military station. Even the sight of these children representing our army is enough to make eligible young men object to take the shilling. —Yours, &c.

Mr. Phineas Taylor Barnum died at his residence at Bridgeport, Connecticut, on Tuesday last. He was born at Bethel in that state in July 1810, and was the son of a countryman and a small innkeeper, who died in 1825, leaving neither money nor property behind him. The boy started in business before his father's death, and had already begun to show that the "getting on quality," for which George III. had such an unbounded admiration, was born in him. At





